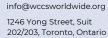




# **QUARTERLY REPORT**

December 2024











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# PRESIDENT MESSAGE





JOSHUA W. BOUDAR PRESIDENT

Season's greetings! Welcome to the second Quarterly Report of the 2024/2025 term of office. We hope that you enjoy this QR as much as we enjoyed producing it.

The fall is truly one of the busiest times of the year for the WCCS. Past president Tamia Abrahams recently attended and presented at the 12th World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) Global Education Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Between the activities surrounding World Spine Day (observed internationally Oct 16) and Sustainable Development Goals Week (observed internationally Sep 20-29) our WCCS chapters have been on their toes. Kudos to the UQTR chapter for their innovative and engaging events in celebration of World Spine Day and shout out to the Zurich chapter for their entertaining social media video that emphasizes the importance of Sustainable Development Goals in everyday life. As doctors of chiropractic to-be, we all have the opportunity to be teachers and leaders in our community. These chapters have gone above and beyond to get their communities involved in the initiatives that our organization endorses. Thank you!

Looking to the future we are preparing for the upcoming regional events (RE). The American RE will be hosted by the Cleveland University WCCS Chapter in Kansas City on March 6-8 and the European RE will be hosted by the Zürich WCCS Chapter on March 21-23. Also, many hours of

planning have already gone into the Annual General Meeting being hosted July 6-11 at the Southern Denmark University in Odense, Denmark. Registration for these events will be available in the new year.

Recently, I was fortunate enough to get to meet one of the great researchers in chiropractic at the Cleveland University Annual Conference and Expo (ACE).

Dr. Heidi Havvick presented her new research on the progress in neuroscience. Her explanation of the effects of chiropractic adjustments on the salience network of the brain was truly impressive. It is inspiring to have research coming out that supports the effectiveness of chiropractic on rewiring the brain when it comes to patients dealing with chronic pain. If you would like to learn more you can visit her website. Gratitude is extended to the Cleveland University administration for allowing their WCCS chapter the opportunity to participate in the ACE event at the exhibitor hall. We were able to inform many attendees about the mission and vision of the WCCS and it was surreal to have so many doctors in the field come to our booth talking about their impactful experiences with the WCCS when they were in school. As serendipity would have it, we were placed right next to WCCS alumni Dr. Krista Burns, founder of the American Postural Institute and faculty member at the National University of Health Sciences. What a small world.

# PRESIDENT MESSAGE



To all the emerging and reactivating chapters, we are excited about what the coming year holds for you. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM in Denmark, where I hope to be the first to congratulate you on your achievement. Whether you are establishing a brand-new chapter or reactivating one that has been inactive, your hard work in this process does not go unnoticed. Your dedication to the principles of chiropractic and the advancement of our profession is truly inspiring.

To the alumni of the WCCS I send out a call to action, if you're reading this, we want your help. A tree's height is only limited by the depth of its roots. I believe that with greater connection with the alumni of the WCCS our organization will be strengthened. All of you contain countless experiences that are invaluable for new doctors joining the field today. Help us stand on the shoulders of giants so that we may grow to new heights. To this end, I am creating a network for WCCS student members to tap into. This network would allow students to be able to contact you with questions about business, technique, and other aspects of our vocation. If you are interested in participating in sharing your wisdom, please email me at your earliest convenience with your contact information at president@wccsworldwide.org.

Sending you peace, love, and joy this holiday season.

# SECRETARY UPDATE



As we welcome 2025, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to all members of the WCCS. May this year bring you success, good health, and fulfillment in all your endeavors.

Reflecting on the past few months, one of our standout moments was World Spine Day, celebrated on October 16, 2024. The passion and dedication shown by our chapters were truly inspiring, and we are proud of the created initiatives organized across the globe. A special congratulations goes to the UZH, NCCC, UQTR, and IFEC chapters for their exceptional commitment and efforts. Your hard work shines brightly, and we are deeply grateful for your contributions to advancing awareness of spinal health.

Another highlight of this term has been the Bi-Monthly Speaker Series, which has already featured two esteemed professionals: Dr. Jamal Fruster and Dr. Sean Flannery. Their sessions provided invaluable insights into the realities of chiropractic practice and the broader profession. For those who missed these webinars, I encourage you to make time for future sessions. They are filled with wisdom and practical advice that can enrich your journey as chiropractors. Keep an eye on our social media platforms and chapter emails for updates on upcoming speakers.

Looking ahead, the excitement is building for our AGM in Denmark. This much-anticipated event offers an excellent opportunity for us to come together, share ideas, connect, and shape the future of WCCS. The registration link will be sent out soon, so please stay alert for this important update. I look forward to seeing you all there!



PREELAN GOVENDER
SECRETARY

Lastly, I'd like to remind everyone about the importance of Proposal Submissions. Submission deadlines have been have been communicated to all chapters via email. If you plan to submit a proposal, please ensure it is submitted on time. Proposals play a vital role in shaping the future of our organization, and your input is highly valued.

Should you have any questions about the topics discussed or need further clarification, don't hesitate to email me, <a href="mailto:secretary@wccsworldwide.org">secretary@wccsworldwide.org</a>.

Wishing you all the best for the year ahead!

# FINANCE UPDATE





**DANYKA BEDARD** FINANCE

Hello WCCS Family,

First and foremost, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all chapters and their members for their continued commitment and active participation during this first half of the year. Your dedication is key to our collective success and allows us to pursue our mission with passion and determination.

#### Membership Fee Update:

As per our planning, the chapter membership fee for the 2025-2026 year has been set at \$1000 CAD. Detailed information will be communicated to each chapter shortly to guide you through this process.

#### **Tax Season Preparation:**

With tax season fast approaching, I am working closely with our accountant to finalize the necessary paperwork as quickly as possible.

### Financial Authority – AGM 2023 Proposal:

As per the proposal adopted at the 2023 AGM, we are tasked with identifying a Canadian organization willing to assume the financial authority in the event that no Canadian WCCS student is able to serve as director of finance. Despite discussions with various organizations, we have unfortunately not yet reached a favorable agreement.

#### **New Payment Method:**

During this quarter, I had the pleasure of working with Michelle Fontana, Regional Coordinator for Europe, to implement a

payment method directly accessible through our website. This system will not only simplify the work of the Board of Directors (BoD) in creating payment forms, but will also provide our members with centralized access to the necessary informations and tools.

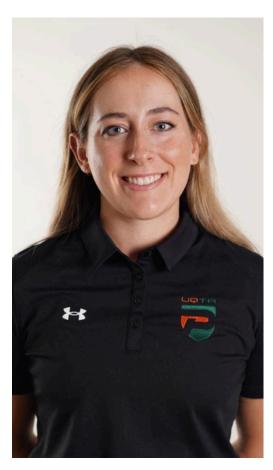
#### **Upcoming Events:**

Registration for the RE and the AGM in Denmark will open very soon. If you haven't already, I encourage you to discuss within your chapter to designate your representatives for these events.

We look forward to seeing you again for these moments of sharing and collaboration.

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS UPDATE





GABRIELLE NEPTON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Hello everyone!

As the Director of Internal Affairs for the World Congress of Chiropractic Students, I am thrilled to share the incredible progress our organization has made over the past quarter. The Big Brother Program continues to flourish, creating invaluable opportunities for mentorship and guidance. It is helping newer members find their footing, while fostering a culture of collaboration and support within our organization.

We are also excited to announce that registration for the upcoming Regional Meetings and Annual General Meeting (AGM) will open soon. These events are critical for shaping the future of WCCS, providing a platform for meaningful discussions, policymaking, and networking among chiropractic students worldwide. I strongly encourage all chapters to actively participate and make their voices heard.

In addition, I want to express my heartfelt congratulations to our chapters for their extraordinary commitment to community service during Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Week and World Spine Day. Your volunteer efforts have made a significant impact, promoting global health initiatives and raising awareness about the importance of spinal care. It is inspiring to see our members embody the values of chiropractic care while making a difference on a global scale.

This quarter has also been marked by significant growth, as we welcome several soon-to-be chapters into the WCCS family. This

expansion reflects the growing interest in and commitment to our mission, strengthening our ability to represent chiropractic students from diverse regions and backgrounds.

I extend my deepest gratitude to every member for your unwavering dedication, hard work, and passion for advancing the chiropractic profession. Together, we are making a meaningful impact, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish in the months ahead.

# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS UPDATE





FLORIAN ALLIX
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Dear WCCS Members.

As the Director of External Affairs, the past few months have been both incredibly productive and inspiring. We have made significant progress in strengthening our external partnerships and creating new opportunities for collaboration to promote global health and raise awareness of chiropractic care. Here is a brief overview of our achievements and ongoing efforts:

### 1. WHO Civil Society Application

One of our primary focuses has been applying for recognition as a Civil Society Organization with the World Health Organization (WHO). This application is a crucial step toward increasing our visibility and influence on a global scale. It will allow us to contribute more actively to WHO initiatives and advocate for chiropractic care as an integral part of public health systems worldwide.

#### 2. Reconnecting with GHWN Youth Hub

We have successfully re-engaged with the Global Health Workforce Network (GHWN) Youth Hub, reaffirming our role within their steering committees. This partnership helps amplify the voice of chiropractic students and fosters interdisciplinary cooperation with other health professions. Through this collaboration, we aim to support sustainable workforce development and promote health equity.

#### 3. Participation in Youth Hub Meetings

We have actively participated in Youth Hub meetings, which have provided invaluable opportunities to collaborate with inspiring young leaders from around the world. These interactions have helped forge meaningful connections, opening doors to potential projects focused on improving global health outcomes in the future.

#### 4. World Spine Day Campaign

We were proud to collaborate with the WHO committee and all WCCS chapters on the World Spine Day campaign. This initiative was a resounding success, highlighting the importance of spinal health and encouraging preventive care practices worldwide. The campaign also served as a powerful reminder of the impact of collective action in raising awareness and driving meaningful change.

#### **Looking Ahead**

As we move forward, we remain committed to building strategic partnerships and representing WCCS on global platforms. These efforts are vital to advancing the chiropractic profession and promoting collaborative approaches to healthcare worldwide.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to these accomplishments. Your dedication and hard work continue to inspire progress within WCCS and beyond.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE





**DANIELY MENDOZA**PUBLIC RELATIONS

As we reach the midpoint of our term of service, I am pleased to share an update on the progress, collaborations, and personal growth experienced as Director of Public Relations for the World Congress of Chiropractic Students (WCCS).

#### 1. Collaboration on the AGM Video Production

An exciting project this quarter will be collaborating with WCCS members on the video production for the 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Odense, Denmark. Meetings will allow us to share creative ideas and innovative approaches to showcase what this event will offer. Together, we will build a foundation for a production that reflects the unique essence of Denmark while inspiring anticipation for AGM 2025. In addition, we are actively planning ahead, conceptualizing and developing creative ideas for introduction videos for the 2026 AGM.

# 2. Recognizing the Board of Directors (BoD) and Team of Officials (ToO)

The creation of the WCCS Video Updates this year has been a team effort, and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the BoD and ToO. Their support, feedback, and collaboration have been instrumental in ensuring that these updates remain engaging and informative. Each individual's contribution has helped amplify the WCCS mission and vision through meaningful communication.

#### 3. Overcoming Challenges and Embracing Growth

This role has been a journey of learning and growth. From conceptualizing posts to creating graphic designs for AGM announcement, World Spine Day, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) week, each step has strengthened my skills in communication, creativity, and leadership. Facing challenges with new tools and techniques has not only enhanced my professional abilities but also deepened my appreciation for effective public relations strategies. Communication truly is an art of weaving stories that can inspire, connect, and create change amongst us all. I am honored to be able to paint the vision of WCCS with the colors of collaboration and creativity. Thank you for entrusting me with this position and for the ongoing support and collaboration. I look forward to contribute to WCCS and making the remainder of this year even more impactful.

#### 4. Celebrating an Amazing Team

The success of WCCS initiatives like World Spine Day and promoting the Sustainable Development Goals has been made possible by the incredible teamwork and guidance of our WCCS members. Their insights and collaborative spirit have elevated our posts, ensuring they resonate with our audience and showcase the true impact of chiropractic on global health. It is inspiring to work with such a dedicated and innovative group.

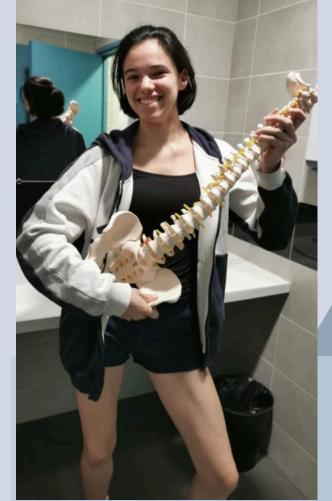
I wish you all happy holidays and an even better new year!

# **2024 MEDIA POSTS**













# **REGIONAL UPDATES**

# **AFRICA**

Hi everyone,

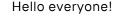
Activities in the African region have been progressing steadily. Although a planned hike for World Spine Day had to be canceled due to rainy weather, the week was still a success, thanks to the engaging daily quizzes hosted on the WCCS DUT Instagram. These quizzes garnered active participation and positive feedback from our community.

Looking ahead, the African Regional Event is scheduled to take place at DUT in 2025, promising to be an exciting and impactful seminar for all attendees. Additionally, DUT participated in a Big Brother meeting with students from UZH, IFEC, and AECC. This marked the first meeting of the year and provided an excellent platform for members to interact, exchange ideas, and strengthen connections within the organization.



-Nikhita Nathoo, African Regional Coordinator, WCCS

# **AMERICA**





I am pleased to share that the chapters in America have been quite active over the last few months. We have been in the process revitalizing several chapters, including those at Life University, Sherman, Northeast and Palmer Davenport. We are excited to welcome these chapters back into the organization and look forward to their participation in upcoming regional meetings. We also hope to have them return as official chapters at the 2025 AGM.

Our chapters have demonstrated exceptional commitment during SDG week, which took place from September 20–29. They displayed great creativity in their activities, promoting the goals of "Good Health and Well-Being" and "Responsible Consumption and Production." The initiatives they organized and their social media presence have been truly inspiring.

World Spine day on October 16th has also a major success. Chapters organized a variety of activities, from yoga and dodgeball to fun informative posts on social media focused on spine health. Thank you for everyone contributing to it.

Regarding the Big Brother Program, our first meeting is scheduled for early January 2025, with additional meetings planned thereafter. This initiative promises to further strengthen our network and foster meaningful connections across chapters.

The planning for the 2025 American RE is going smoothly. The event will be held in Kansas City, hosted by the Cleveland University chapter, from March 6-8. It promises to be an exceptional experience, and we can't wait to see you all there!

Registration for the 2025 AGM will be opening soon, so stay tuned for more details. The American chapters are excited to register and join our colleagues from other regions in Denmark this July.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and looking forward to all the opportunities that 2025 will bring!

-Esteban Larochelle, Americas Regional Coordinator, WCCS

# **EUROPE**



The European Region has been highly active and engaged over the past few months. A special thanks goes out to all the European Heads of Chapters for their consistent participation in our monthly calls. These meetings have provided a valuable platform to discuss regional highlights and collaboratively address any challenges.

- **SDG Week 2023**: In September, we marked SDG Week with a strong focus on Goals #13 (Climate Action) and #15 (Life on Land). Our chapters showcased incredible creativity and commitment through social media campaigns that raised awareness about climate change, community cycling and recycling initiatives and street clean-up efforts aimed at protecting our environment.
- **World Spine Day**: This year's theme, "Support Your Spine," inspired a range of innovative activities, including engaging social media videos asking the public how they care for their spines, treasure hunts where participants captured photos performing spinal-strengthening exercises, and the creation of informative flyers to promote spinal health awareness.
- New Chapter Updates: The two IFEC campuses (Paris and Toulouse) have officially united as one chapter, sharing a single vote at the AGM while continuing to operate as two distinct subchapters. This collaborative approach will enhance event organization and mutual support. Additionally, we are in contact with the Barcelona College of Chiropractic, the Scotland College of Chiropractic, and Germany's Health Campus. We look forward to meeting their students at one of our upcoming events and hope to welcome them as official chapters in the near future.
- **Big Brother Program**: On October 29th, the Big Brother Program brought together students from UZH, IFEC, DUT, and AECC on Zoom. This initiative allowed participants to share ideas and experiences while building connections across chapters. Planning for the next pairings is already underway, with anticipated meetings in February 2025.
- **Upcoming Events**: Preparations for the European Regional Event (March 21–23, 2025, in Zurich, Switzerland) are progressing smoothly, with regular planning meetings ensuring an unforgettable inperson experience. Registration is expected to open by late December or early January. We are equally excited about the AGM 2025 (July 6–11, 2025, in Odense, Denmark) where SDU has been working hard to create a memorable week. Registration for this event is expected to open in late January or early February. We can't wait to welcome many of you to these exciting events as we continue to build and strengthen the European Region's impact. Stay tuned for more updates, including details about speakers, schedules, and registration, on our new website!

-Michelle Fontana, European Regional Coordinator, WCCS

# **WESTERN PACIFIC**

Kia Ora, Konnichiwa, Ni hao, Ya pulingina, Hello!

It's a pleasure to report on the progress of the Western-Pacific region! While geographically we may be on the other side of the world, we've certainly been busy over the past few months.

This quarter, we held two successful regional meetings with NZCC and ACC. Unfortunately, Murdoch University continues to show limited interest, but we are actively working to arrange a meeting with a representative from their chapter to explore ways of increasing student engagement.



The West-Pac region has also seen a leadership transition as we wrap up the academic year for 2024. Both NZCC and ACC have new chapter heads who are eager to get started and drive momentum within their chapters. I'm proud to report that both schools participated enthusiastically in the World Spine Day campaign, and I couldn't be more proud of each chapter's efforts!

There has been interest from potential new chapters within the region, and I will work tirelessly to support them as they join our wonderful organization.

Looking ahead to the next quarter, our focus will shift to planning and executing a regional event. This event will be co-hosted by ACC and NZCC in an online format, so be sure to stay tuned to our social media channels and new website for all the key details!

Wishing you all a lovely Christmas and prosperous 2025 from the sunny, Southern Hemisphere!

-Tamia Abrahams, Western Pacific Regional Coordinator, WCCS

# **COMMITTEE UPDATES**



# LC CHAIR



Hello and a warm welcome back from your Legislative Chair,

As we step into the new year, I am excited to continue to work with our legislative team, building our efforts with meticulous dedication and focus as we refine our policies and by-laws. Our team has been working diligently to write proposals and review past documents to ensure our committee remains compliant and well-organized. As chair, I am proud to see great minds coming together to revamp our policies, and with the upcoming AGM, many of these ideas have the opportunity to come to fruition.

Recently, I released all of the due dates for the stages that are required for these proposals to be reviewed, including any necessary revisions, so that they are ready for their presentation in Denmark. I can personally say that working with my committee members, Laurine and Megan, to write some of the proposals that we -as LC- will be submitting has been an incredibly rewarding experience. We hope that our chapter members, along with other ToO members, will share the same excitement and motivation to continue working on these proposals.

Our Board of Directors and Legislative team are eager to see your submissions this year. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us on the committee for any guidance or assistance through the process!

"Great things are done by a series of small things brought together" - Vincent Van Gogh

-Camryn Arledge, Legislative Chair, WCCS

# LC SECRETARY



Hi everyone,

Over the past few months, my two colleagues from the Legislative Committee and I have dedicated significant time to reviewing and updating the SOPPs and By-Laws. I'm excited to share that we've successfully reformatted all the SOPPs and are now focusing on revising and reformatting the By-Laws. Once the committee is confident that everything is finalized and in perfect order, we will submit the final versions to the Board of Directors for review.

In the coming weeks, we will also be working on new proposals to present to the BOD and, eventually at the AGM.

I'd like to give a special shout-out to Laurine and Camryn for their incredible dedication and hard work throughout this process. I couldn't have done it without them!

Looking forward to what's next!

-Megan Gélinas, Legislative Committee Secretary, WCCS



# LC EDITOR



Hi WCCS family!

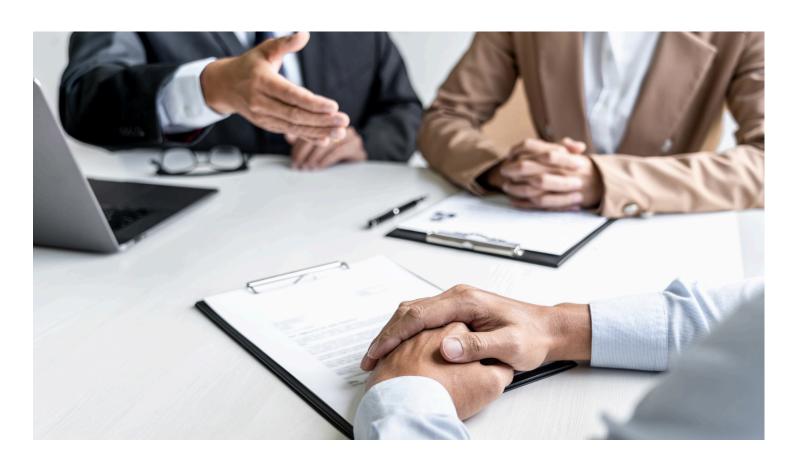
Since the AGM, the Legislative Committee has met several times to review and make changes to the SOPPs and By-laws. We've put a great deal of thought into the layout and the proposals that will be presented.

Our upcoming meetings will focus on finalizing proposals to be presented to the Board of Directors and, eventually, voted on at the next AGM.

Working alongside Camryn and Mega, has been an absolute pleasure, we truly make a great team. We are very excited for you to see our work!

Enjoy the festive season and we look forward to reconnecting in the new year!

-Laurine Barbier, Legislative Committee Editor, WCCS





## **WCCS COMMITTEES**

#### MARKETING COMMITTEE

We're excited to share an update on the latest initiatives from the Marketing Committee:

**2024 - 2025 Logo Implementation Documents:** To help chapters implement the new logo effectively, we've created detailed documents outlining the process. All chapters are required to read these materials carefully and follow the guidelines. Please note that the deadline for updating all materials was the end of October. This information has been sent via Chapter email—please be sure to check your inbox!

**WCCS Member Recruitment Presentation:** A new presentation has been created to support member recruitment efforts. This resource will help chapters attract new members by highlighting our mission, values, and the benefits of joining. We encourage chapters to utilize this tool to engage potential recruits.

**2025 AGM logo and videos:** Starting in 2025, the Marketing Committee will meet on the second Sunday of every month. A link will be shared for those interested in helping create marketing videos, posts, and announcements for the Denmark Annual General Meeting and other WCCS events. The goal is to raise awareness about the benefits of the World Congress of Chiropractic, WCCS activities, and encourage participation in the upcoming AGM!

The Marketing Committee is also looking for passionate individuals to help refine our marketing strategies and expand our outreach. Whether you have experience in branding, social media, content creation, or simply a strong commitment to our mission and values, we would love to have your input!

Please reach out at <u>publicrelations@wccsworldwide.org</u> or Instagram direct message us @wccschiro.

Together, we can develop fresh campaigns and take our dynamic brand to the next level!

#### CHAP (CHIROPRACTIC HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

The Chiropractic Humanitarian Assistance Program (CHAP) is a dedicated committee focused on enhancing community service within active chapters of the organization. CHAP plays a vital role in promoting the importance of giving back to the community, with a particular emphasis on spinal care education and awareness.

This year, through various initiatives, the committee encourages chapters to engage in service projects that not only benefit local communities but also foster a deeper understanding of chiropractic care. CHAP frequently collaborates with World Spine Care, combining resources and expertise to maximize its global impact in promoting spinal health.

By emphasizing community involvement and public education, CHAP aims to strengthen the relationship between chiropractic professionals and the communities they serve, ultimately advancing our mission of promoting better spinal health for all.

Email: chap@wccsworldwide.org

#### **WORK ABROAD COMMITTEE**

Dear Members.

The Work Abroad Committee is committed to documenting the steps required to become a chiropractor in various countries. This year, we will continue to compile comprehensive information and create valuable resources to support our members.

If you are interested in joining this committee, your participation and insights would be greatly appreciated and can significantly enhance our efforts. Together, we can provide essential guidance and support to those seeking to navigate the complexities of international chiropractic practice.

To join, please contact the Director of Internal Affairs, Gabrielle Nepton, at internalaffairs@wccsworldwide.org. Gabrielle will provide you with more information on how to get involved.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute!

#### **BIG BROTHER PROGRAM**

The Big Brother Program continues to grow and evolve, providing valuable mentorship opportunities for chiropractic students worldwide. This fall, we successfully hosted the Big Brother Program events in Europe and Africa, fostering connections and knowledgesharing within these regions. In January, the program will expand to the Americas, offering students there the same opportunities to build meaningful relationships and receive support throughout their chiropractic journey.

Later this winter, we are thrilled to announce plans to broaden the program beyond regional boundaries by facilitating intercontinental meetings. This new initiative will create a unique platform for global collaboration, allowing students from different parts of the world to connect, share perspectives, and strengthen the international chiropractic community.



# ORGANIZATION UPDATES AND ACTIVITIES UPCOMING EVENTS

European RE - March 21 2025 (Switzerland)

WCCS Regional Events (RE) are held annually, lasting 2-3 days in each region. It aims to provide a platform for chiropractic students in that specific region to connect, learn, and engage in international exchange on topics like research, education, and techniques. Featuring speakers and interactive workshops, Regional Events encourage active participation and practical skill development.

The European Regional Event in 2025 will be held from March 21 to March 23, with an unofficial kickoff on the evening of March 20, in the picturesque city of Zurich, Switzerland.

The event will be proudly hosted by the WCCS Chapter at the University of Zurich (UZH) and they are thrilled to welcome delegates from across the European region, offering a fantastic program featuring inspiring speakers, engaging workshops, and a vibrant social itinerary. Attendees will gain valuable insights into how chiropractic is taught and practiced in Switzerland while experiencing a taste of Swiss culture. Please find a full schedule and speaker outline on our event page <a href="https://wccsworldwide.org/event/european-re-2025-switzerland/">https://wccsworldwide.org/event/european-re-2025-switzerland/</a>. Registration is open now and it will be posted on the website as well as on the WCCS UZH Chapter social media and the main WCCS account.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# American RE: March 6 - 9, 2025 Kansas City

The American Regional Event will be hosted by the Cleveland University WCCS Chapter in Kansas City. The Regional events play a vital role in shaping the future of WCCS, offering a platform for meaningful discussions, policy development, and a lot of networking among chiropractic students from all around the world. I strongly urge all chapters to engage actively and ensure their voices are represented, Save the date, we are excited to have you join!









# AGM: July 6 - 11, 2025 Odense, Denmark

Mark your calendars! The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the World Congress of Chiropractic Students will take place from July 6th to July 11th, 2025, in the beautiful city of Odense, Denmark. This highly anticipated event will bring together chiropractic students from around the globe to engage in meaningful discussions, collaborative workshops, and decision-making sessions that shape the future of our organization. Registration for the AGM will open soon, and we encourage all chapters to begin planning their participation. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with peers, contribute to the advancement of chiropractic, and experience the vibrant culture of Odense.

**QR DEC. 2024** 

# **PAST EVENTS**

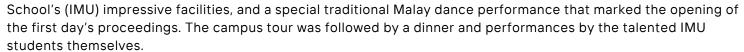
## WFC EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

I was fortunate enough to attend the 12th Global Educational Congress, hosted by the World Federation of Chiropractic, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at the end of October 2024. The central theme for the conference was "TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION". This modern and dynamic topic was explored in depth, with extensive discussions and presentations.

This conference brought together everyone involved in chiropractic education, from department heads and faculty to lecturers, curriculum developers, advisors and students! The theme was carried through a range of interactive workshops, lectures, and platform presentations by renowned keynote speakers. The technology and innovation being harnessed by educational institutions are impressive, and I believe they will significantly enhance the quality of chiropractic education.

As an attendee, I had the privilege of representing WCCS at the conference. I was honored to be invited as a session chair, a role that involved introducing the speakers, managing the timing, and ensuring the program ran smoothly and meticulously. It was also a privilege to have my Master's research presented in a poster presentation on this global platform! This was showcasing the amazing opportunities that the WCCS provides to its members.

The conference was filled with highlights, including excellent networking opportunities, a tour of the International Medical



This was yet another wonderful opportunity for WCCS to showcase the incredible work we do while demonstrating to faculty and practicing chiropractors alike that the future of chiropractic is in good hands! I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Richard Brown for the wonderful opportunity given to me -as a WCCS member- to serve as a session chair.







## **PAST EVENTS**

## AGM 2024 - VERA CRUZ

Universidad Veracruzana (UV): UV convened the 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) this summer in Veracruz, Mexico, from June 30 to July 5. Thirty inperson delegates from eight chapters and fourteen online delegates from three chapters attended the event. Six excellent speakers covered subjects such as spinal disorders, pediatric chiropractic care, and fundamental chiropractic principles during the week.

The conference generated enlightening conversations about the function of chiropractic in public health as well as the role of chiropractic students within the World Congress of Chiropractic Students (WCCS). In our leisure time, we enjoyed a beautiful ocean view with a boat ride to Cancuncito Island, which included snorkeling, a visit to the Veracruz Aquarium, and a tour of UV's medical department which was beyond enjoyable for the delegates.

Overall, the event emphasized the need of "unity through diversity" in the chiropractic community, fostering enlightening conversations and enhancing participants' comprehension of many points of view. We would like to sincerely thank the UV chapter and the Board of Directors for helping to make this successful and enriching event possible.



# **WORLD SPINE DAY (WSD)**

contest."

WSD, is held annually on October 16th, aims to raise awareness about spinal health, educate the public on preventing spinal disorders, and encourage good posture and regular physical activity to support a healthy spine. The event is organized by the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) and WCCS students participate in organizing activites to bring awareness.

organized activities and a pancake sale. Most of

the students were happy to take part in this international day. We also organized a column

hunt, a Question/Answer and a funny photo

# **ANNOUNCING THE NEW WCCS WEBSITE:**

# A YEAR-LONG JOURNEY OF DEDICATION AND GROWTH

After the new WCCS logo was officially approved at the AGM 2024 in Veracruz, Mexico, and the implementation process began in September, I'm thrilled to announce that the new WCCS website is now (mostly) completed! The process has been a labor of love, but seeing the final product makes it all worthwhile. Let me walk you through this journey — from concept to completion — and highlight some exciting new features we're proud to share with you.

If you haven't had the chance to explore the revamped WCCS website yet, stop reading and check it out now! The updated site features a sleek new design, improved user-friendly navigation, and a fresh alumni testimonial video that we're proud of. A huge thank you to the alumni who contributed! While not all submissions could be included in the video, we plan to feature them in a future testimonial series on our social media platforms.

#### Where It All Began

When I was elected Director of Public Relations at the AGM 2023 in Québec, Canada, I was eager to make a meaningful impact. It had been clear for some time that the website needed modernization, as the previous version had become outdated in the wake of the pandemic. I firmly believed that a refreshed online presence would help grow WCCS, serving as a digital "business card" for the organization. Little did I know just how much effort and persistence this project would require!

## **Conceptualizing the Vision**

By October 2023, I was ready to dive in. While I had some basic tech skills, building a website from scratch was uncharted territory for me. I started by analyzing the old site — making lists of what worked, what didn't, and what could be improved. My goal was to create a site that was modern, intuitive, and engaging for members and visitors alike.

Next, I created a vision board, experimenting with colors, layouts, and content ideas. This process involved countless hours of research, drawing inspiration from hundreds of websites, and refinding the design through multiple iterations. By early 2024, I had developed a solid design and navigation plan.

As I continued to work on the new design, it became clear that an updated logo — along with a refreshing color scheme — was also necessary. So, I added one more task to my growing to-do list, experimenting with dozens of logo concepts before settling on the final version, which was officially approved at the AGM 2024.

### **Content Creation and Collaboration**

Designing the website was just one part of the puzzle. The content needed to be compelling, accurate, and aligned with our mission. This was truly a collaborative effort, and I'm incredibly grateful to the 2023/2024 Board of Directors for their contributions and support. Together, we updated key documents and crafted a clear, concise explanation of what the WCCS is and the benefits it offers.

One standout feature is the alumni testimonial video. I wanted prospective and current members to see — not just read — how WCCS can make a lasting impact during their studies and beyond. With the help of the Marketing Committee, we planned the video, reached out to over 100 alumni, and curated their responses into a powerful, inspiring piece.

# **ANNOUNCING THE NEW WCCS WEBSITE:**

# A YEAR-LONG JOURNEY OF DEDICATION AND GROWTH

#### **From Vision to Reality**

By January 2024, the design and most of the content were ready — but transforming it into a fully functioning website was the next challenge. With my demanding schedule as a final-year student working over 50 hours a week in a hospital, I knew I couldn't do this alone. To ensure the website would be sustainable for future PR Directors, we decided to partner with a professional web development team.

After careful consideration, we partnered with a South Africa-based company in April. Regular meetings with the developers began, and while progress was slower than anticipated, the site started to take shape. The initial March launch was postponed to August and then to November due to technical issues and my own commitments, including final exams.

### **Launching the New Website**

Despite the delays, I was determined to see the project through. Even after my term as PR Director ended, I continued working on the site to ensure it was the best it could be. In early November 2024, the new WCCS website officially launched! While there are still minor refinements to be made — such as streamlining event registrations and payment systems — the biggest hurdles are behind us, and I couldn't be prouder of the final result.

### Reflections on the Journey

Looking back, this project taught me invaluable lessons. I stepped out of my comfort zone, tackled challenges head-on, and learned to manage frustrations when things didn't go as planned.

Most importantly, I discovered that good things take time — and the effort was worth it.

Additionally, gaining experience in project management and developing new skills in IT has been incredibly rewarding. I'm confident these skills will not only help me when I eventually create a website for my future practice but also in organizing events down the line.

Thank you to everyone who supported me throughout this process. I hope the new website reflects the growth, passion, and vision of the WCCS, and I look forward to seeing how it continues to evolve in the years to come.

Kind regards,

Michelle Fontana, European Regional Coordinator

# WCCS WEBSITE



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# Who we are

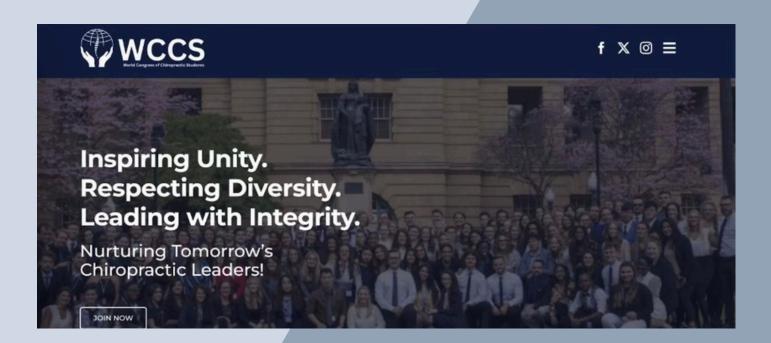
The World Congress of Chiropractic Students (WCCS) has always been a student run organisation, driven to represent and empower the voice of chiropractic students and achieve greater unity across the global profession.

As an apolitical non-profit organisation, we strive to offer chiropractic students a platform to enhance leadership and advocacy skills, while gaining a deeper understanding about the diversity within the chiropractic profession.

LEARN MORE

JOIN US





# WCCS WEBSITE

First version - October 2023 -

→ Last version - January 2024









# **News and Events**

See what we have been up to in our News & Events section and make sure to mark your calendar for all upcoming events!

READ NEWS

SEE EVENTS



## European RE 2025: Switzerland

In 2025, the European Regional Event will take place in the idyllic city of Zurich...

Varich, Switzerland

21 March - 23 March, 2025



#### Americas RE 2025: Kansas City, USA

In 2025, the American Regional Meeting will take place from March 7 to 9 in Kansas City,

Ransas City, Kansas, USA

07 March - 09 March, 2025

# **2024 PHOTO DUMP**

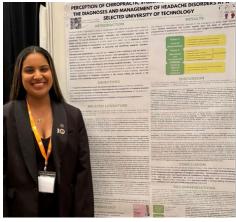










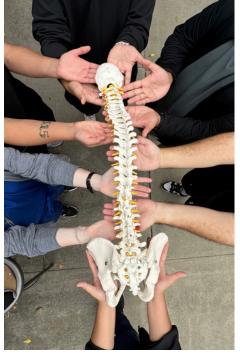




# **2024 PHOTO DUMP**

















## **BIMONTHLY SPEAKER SERIES**



We want to remind you that the bimonthly speaker series scheduled for November 2024 has been postponed to January 2025. This adjustment will give everyone the opportunity to better align their schedules, helping us achieve the best attendance and participation for all of our future guest speakers. We believe this will lead to a more productive and engaging experience moving forward! And yes, that means we are lucky to have two amazing guest speakers in January – we're beyond excited!

-BoD 2024/2025

November: Meet Dr Flannery - "Be Present" Insights on Chiropractic Care and Professional Growth"

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Sean Flannery will be joining us again as a guest speaker January 2025!

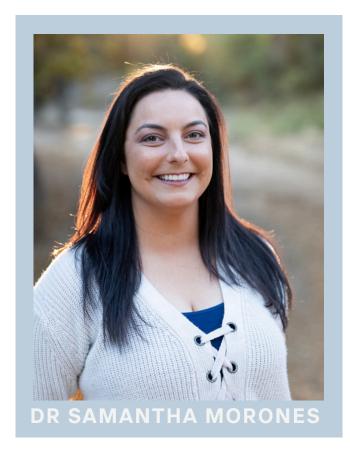
Dr. Flannery is a full-time instructor at SCUHS, co-owner of Family First Chiropractic, and Class of 2019 Logan University graduate. His desire to have a significant influence on people's lives is what drives his passion for chiropractic care. Dr. Flannery guides patients towards a well-balanced lifestyle through hands on care and motivation to help patients move toward a healthy lifestyle.

As a member of the Logan Delegation and a former member of the Legislative Committee of WCCS (previously SOPPS), Dr. Flannery is also quite active in the chiropractic community. His involvement has improved his ability to communicate both as a speaker and an engaged listener, in addition to enabling him to network with colleagues worldwide. He believes that the capacity to listen and understand other's perspective is where chiropractic's real power resides.

As Dr. Flannery advises, "Be present." Whether you are a current student, a prospective chiropractic student, or a recent graduate, his message is clear: active listening and genuine communication are essential for making a positive impact on your patients and your profession. De Flannery states, "This organization and profession have a unique and active approach to healthcare. Be present for your patients and fellow delegates. We all have a story to be told and as chiropractors, we have the opportunity to make a positive impact in this world." Don't miss this opportunity to hear from Dr. Flannery and gain valuable insights into both chiropractic care and professional development!

We will continue to keep you up to date and we appreciate your understanding. We're all very thrilled to share an enriching guest speaker series with you soon. Thank you for engaging with these speaker series and events as they help us to advance our community!

## **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**



Hello, I'm Dr. Samantha Morones Flannery!

I am an alumnus of Logan University April 2020, Owner of Family First Chiropractic in Fullerton, CA and parttime faculty at SCUHS. I chose this profession when I saw chiropractic help my severely injured grandmother after other fields failed her. She then developed debilitating Rheumatoid Arthritis which is helped with Chiropractic care. I specifically wanted to work in the perinatal and pediatric field because it is such a joy to see kiddos and their mom's grow during early development.

I started with the SCUHS chapter in 2018 where I attended AGM in Johannesburg, South Africa. There I met the Logan chapter that helped me transfer schools to attend their pediatric clinic rotation. There I attended Logan's America's Regional Event and followed by attending AGM in Brisbane, Australia in 2019. I really enjoyed meeting new friends and networking at these events. I also appreciated experiencing different cultures from across the globe and how chiropractic is seen all around the world.

I truly love having professionals all around the world that I get to call friends. WCCS allows us to share a passion for chiropractic and world traveling together! I was able to appreciate two whole new countries/continents in my busy schedule of chiropractic school and still stay focused on my studies. I am thankful for the memories and people I have from WCCS.

If I could share any advice with current, prospective, and new graduates of WCCS, it would be: Take the leap, join clubs, get involved, and go on trips you never thought you would ever take! These last moments of time you have in chiropractic school are it, once you've joined the field time flies too fast and you won't be able to find these same moments anymore. Might as well make some new friends along the way! You have to take time for yourself during the tense years of chiropractic school otherwise you lose the fire that made you want to start school in the first place, WCCS restarted the fire for chiropractic in me at every event!

-Dr. Samantha Morones Flannery, WCCS Alumni Logan University, '20

## MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Hello everyone!

My name is Sierra James and I am currently the President of the WCCS chapter at Cleveland University - Kansas City (CUKC) in Overland Park, KS. I just finished my 5th trimester of chiropractic school which means that I am halfway done with the program.

I chose to become a chiropractor because I love the idea of helping both humans and animals improve their lives in a non-invasive way. I have been seeing a chiropractor myself for many years, and when I discovered that chiropractors could also work with animals, I was immediately hooked. In the United States, animal chiropractic is gaining traction, and laws are being pushed forward to open up more opportunities for DCs to work with both animals and humans.

When Josh, the current WCCS President, started the WCCS club at Cleveland, I decided to join because I resonated with what the WCCS stands for. I was also incredibly interested in learning about what chiropractic on a global scale, discovering how I could potentially work internationally, and the networking opportunities that come with connecting with and befriending chiropractors from all over the world.



SIERRA JAMES
STUDENT AT THE CLEVELAND UNIVERSITY - KANSAS
CITY (CUKC)

As WCCS-CUKC chapter president, my current goals are to establish a strong foundation for our chapter, host a successful American Regional Event (ARE) in 2025, and ensure that our club has the resources it needs to thrive long after I graduate. Although WCCS-CUKC is still relatively a young chapter (just about a year old), we are excited to host ARE 2025 and are committed to building strong fundraising efforts and increasing community education about chiropractic in our local area.

I admire other clubs that have formed relationships around the world, and cherish Zoom calls where I connect with members across the globe. Many of these connections began during my time at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2024 in Veracruz, Mexico, which I was so grateful to have attended and met so many amazing people. I'm already looking forward to attending AGM 2025 in Denmark!

After graduation, I am planning to return to Colorado to work and enjoy life in the mountains! However, with my love for travel, and my involvement in WCCS, I'm considering working internationally first, before settling down to open my practice in Colorado.

I hope to see many of you at ARE 2025 and/or AGM 2025! Wishing you all the happiest of holidays and a healthy new year!

#### RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

# ASIA PACIFIC CHIROPRACTIC (APC) JOURNAL

The September issue of the Asia Pacific Chiropractic Journal had a very interesting submission from our President Joshua Boudar. Be sure to access the article on the APCJ website and enjoy your reading!



# A tale of two paths

#### Joshua W Boudar

Narrative: The first path for a chiropractic student is to become qualified and build the foundation for all that will be done in practice. There is a secondary path, one where the students find their passion. If this first path is everything you need to be qualified, the second path would be considered anything that you do while you're in school that helps you to become competent.

This secondary path is the path that will help the student to one day stand in front of people with unconscious competence because they preemptively spent the time and energy to develop themself into the doctor they dreamt of becoming.

Taking time to care for one's well-being while walking these paths is not optional, it is mandatory.

Indexing terms: Chiropractic; World Congress of Chiropractic Students, WCCS; self-care, well-being.

## Introduction

In this information era Chiropractic students are bombarded with more data in school than at any other time in their lives. A common phrase, heard in schools right now is 'that attending chiropractic school is like drinking from a firehose', difficult but achievable.

Deciphering all the information and making a properly informed decision can become difficult for many students. Decision fatigue and burnout are two real problems that chiropractic students deal with daily. As of the writing of this article, I am in my final year at Cleveland University in Kansas City and I have definitely felt the pressure of school over the last few years. I can only speak from personal experience in hopes that my insight will help other students through chiropractic school.

... The WCCS helps you develop your own unconscious competence as a doctor and leader in your community and our profession ...'



### RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

#### The pathways in your Chiropractic school

First, the purpose of a chiropractic school is to be an institution designed to offer individuals, who wish to become chiropractors, a program in which to enrol to acquire the necessary qualifications needed in their desired practice location. Basically, chiropractic schools exist to help students become qualified to call themselves 'doctors'. This is the first path, the apparent path, the path that most students in school right now believe is the only path for them. However, this is far from the truth.

There is another path while you're in school that helps make the process worth it, tolerable, and even enjoyable. This first path, to become qualified, is your foundation for all that you will do in practice, the secondary path is where you find your passion. If this first path is everything you need to be qualified, the second path would be considered anything that you do while you're in school that helps you to become competent. The second path, sometimes known as the 'parallel curriculum' or self-guided exploration, is the one you find yourself on while exploring seminars and workshops, shadowing doctor offices, and attending clubs and conferences.

Most of these activities are done during your free time, at your own expense, between classes, studying for exams, and all the other life events that happen while you achieve your degree. These activities help you build new skills physically and mentally. Sometimes these activities will test the boundaries of your comfort and force you to examine previously held habits and beliefs. This secondary path is the path that will help you to one day stand in front of people with unconscious competence because you preemptively spent the time and energy to develop yourself into the doctor you dream of one day becoming.

#### A benefit of the WCCS

What do either of the two paths have to do with the *World Congress of Chiropractic Students*? The WCCS is an international, apolitical, nonprofit organisation run by chiropractic students from around the world and is dedicated to promoting and progressing the chiropractic profession. I am currently privileged to call myself the President of this fantastic nonprofit organisation. I believe that the individuals who commit their time to this cause are working on their 'parallel curriculum'.

Individual members of the WCCS have opportunities to collaborate with their counterparts around the world, creating networks and developing their leadership abilities. Participating in international conferences and meetings will impact our profession for years. Becoming a member of the WCCS will not help you to qualify in any state or country around the world, that is the responsibility of your school. The WCCS will help you develop your own unconscious competence as a doctor and leader in your community and our profession.

Why would anybody want to add extra work to their already stressful and overwhelming schedule? That's a great question, as I wrote about earlier, you need to find something while you're in school that helps keep you from burning out. For me, attending seminars and conferences, shadowing doctors' offices, and spending time outside of class in clubs and clinics, learning techniques I want to master, helps me keep that passion burning bright. Many of my classmates have started to get that deadeye, shell-shocked stare as if they are returning from war and I can understand that many of them haven't had much outside of class to give them a greater perspective of our profession.

Truly, school is a temporary obstacle that is extremely challenging, but having an outlet, such as an organisation like the WCCS, will help students keep their passion alive, and enhance their ability to perform under pressure.

#### RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

The WCCS is only one of many organisations that you could devote your time and energy to. Other organisations I know of that would be useful for a chiropractic student might include Business Network International (BNI), Chambers of Commerce, Toastmasters, a sorority or a fraternity, and even your state, national, or international association. All these are designed to give you purpose, develop different skills, and are available for you when you're ready to take advantage of them.

There are so many different activities and organisations that one individual can get into while in school, but maybe your school or city doesn't already have what you're looking for. Why not be the person to create what you're looking for?

Why not be the change you want to see in the world?

I have been involved in the creation of several different clubs and organisations on *Cleveland University*'s campus throughout my time in school and it is a complicated but rewarding process. Once you get together a group of individuals committed to a common cause you immediately feel a sense of support, connection, and camaraderie. Maybe you're interested in physical fitness and want to start a climbing, running, or hiking club at your school. This is not only a great way to help maintain physical fitness for yourself while you're in school, but will also give you the ability to learn how to manage time and groups of people when working out together. You could get a group together and dive into learning about sports chiropractic and rehabilitation after traumatic sports injuries. Maybe you are interested in books, philosophy, and literature, you could get together with a group of people and start a book club. I highly recommend reading *The Chiropractic Textbook* by RW Stephenson and *33* by David Serio for anyone interested in learning about chiropractic philosophy. These groups and activities are other examples that would be applicable for students to participate in while they are in school because the skills required to conduct these activities are directly transferable to your practice.

#### Prioritise your well-being

If you're reading this and you're feeling burnt out as a chiropractic student, know that you're not the only student feeling overwhelmed. What you're experiencing is a common scenario for many students, however, just because it is common does not mean it is normal. It's not normal to only get a few hours of sleep while studying for exams, stressing over finances, and feeling a lack of time management and support.

Remember that taking time for your well-being while going to school is not optional, it is mandatory. Graduate school is a marathon, not a sprint, and finding a group of individuals to support you along the way will help improve your life while in school. I recommend you find a group that is not only going to support you, but also push you to become the best version of yourself.

I feel extremely grateful for all the connections I have made while in school because many individuals have impacted my life in many ways. With less than a year until my graduation date, I am now closer to the point where I will be qualified to call myself a doctor and experience the unconscious competence I spoke of earlier. This is all due to the two paths I have consistently traveled throughout school.

#### Conclusion

Chiropractic students, here is your call to action to find a group or organisation, get involved or create the group or organisation you are passionate about as soon as possible, commit to sticking with it, embrace challenges as they arise, ask for support when you need it.

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# RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

'We never know how far reaching something we may think, say or do today will affect the lives of millions tomorrow'.

BJ Palmer

Joshua W Boudar
BAppSc, AssocDeg Sci, FASA
Cleveland University
Kansas City, MO
President, WCCS
president@wccsworldwide.org

# **PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS**

The WCCS continues to maintain relationships with other organizations such as the GHWN youth hub, the International Federation of Sports Chiropractic and World Spine Care through the World Federation of Chiropractic and the International Chiropractic Regulatory Society.



We appreciate the support and recognition that this partnership has given us. It has enabled us to contribute to important conversations about key issues in our field by highlighting the unique perspectives and insights of

chiropractic students through collaboration with this journal. Our ongoing collaboration is deeply valued as it allows us to share our knowledge and expertise with a broader audience and engage in meaningful discussions with thought leaders in the field.



We're thrilled to announce that the WCCS will be attending the FICS Symposium in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as a guest! The Symposium will take place mid March and is a fantastic opportunity to connect with global leaders in sports chiropractic and showcase the voice of chiropractic

students on an international stage. Stay tuned for more details as we approach this exciting event!



We're proud to share the impactful work of the Global Health Workforce Network (GHWN) Youth Hub. Their latest advocacy toolkit empowers young health workers, and they're calling for testimonies!

- Did you migrate for education purposes or due to conflict?
- The link for the toolkit : here

Your story matters! Contribute to their project, which will be presented at the next WHO Summit. This is a chance to amplify your voice and inspire change on a global platform.



The World Federation of Chiropractic is an international consulting body representing chiropractic to the international health care community. The WFC is a non-state actor in official relations with

the World Health Organization. The relationship between the WCCS and the WFC allows for the student chiropractic body to be represented on a greater global platform and to a wider healthcare network.



**WORLD SPINE DAY** 



A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to World Spine Day this year! Your dedication and creativity made a real impact. The organizers were thrilled with the results and are already looking forward to even greater participation next year. Let's keep the momentum going and continue to promote spinal health worldwide!