



Dear IFHE friends:

Like last year, I have to say that 2017 has flown by again.

For me, as President, not really an easy year, but a year where we have been able to take a first step towards the future not only with a new IFHE which is better suited to the changing world, which goes with the modernisation of Healthcare, but also, the world that is better suited to the wishes of our IFHE membership worldwide. An IFHE where we can reach the members and other interested parties more easily, making it easier for members to contribute to the IFHE, e.g. through research reports, participation in working groups, education etc...

We have been able to see that the IFHE is not the Federation that carries out the work itself but is the partner making the connections, IFHE is the network worldwide that provides members with a platform where they meet people, where they can share and gain knowledge. All that continues to create a better Healthcare worldwide through knowledge sharing. It is therefore a privilege for me to be your President.

Over the past year I have had the opportunity to visit many countries that are IFHE members, given several lectures, but above all have been able to show what the value and strength of the IFHE is worldwide. The collaboration with other world organisations such as the WHO can enlarge, companies made enthusiastic to become partner, and together with other members to greatly strengthen education and knowledge sharing. I am proud that I, on behalf of you, all the members of the IFHE, have been elected this year 1 of 100 most influential people in Healthcare worldwide. An honourable reward for all of us for the work we do with each other. But of course we are not there yet ...

At the Council meeting in Rio in August, the first interactive meeting, everyone had the opportunity to indicate what we are as an organisation, and what they expect as individuals and where we want to aim as an organisation and say and do better. A new working group 'The Future of IFHE' has started " and is working on a plan for the IFHE in the coming year. This plan, with all its ideas will be presented to Council at the World Congress in Brisbane, Australia. We are thinking of taking the steps needed to ensure that in the future IFHE will continue to be an important partner worldwide that contributes to better Healthcare for all worldwide. To make the IFHE stronger we hope to see you all in Brisbane but for now.....

The IFHE Exco wishes you all the time for reflection on the past and the present; wishes you health, energy and strength for the coming days; and we wish that you can find the support and answers that you need in healthcare matters.

To every IFHE member and all our friends, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2018.

Douwe Kiestra  
President

