

Att: For economy of communication the following invitation contains information on **two** separate conferences on pp. 1 – 2 and pp. 3 – 4 of the .pdf document respectively.

21st September, 2009

IFMSA March Meeting 2010 – Call for Applications

Dear Colleagues,

The Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA) is pleased to open applications for members of the Australian delegation that will attend the 59th March General Assembly (GA) of the International Federation of Medical Students' Association (IFMSA). The upcoming March Meeting will be held in **Bangkok, Thailand** from the **7th to the 13th March, 2010**.

The IFMSA, the largest medical student organization in the world, is dedicated to the work of helping the world's poorest through projects, initiatives and other endeavours. It is the goal of the IFMSA to help produce future doctors who are culturally aware, internationally-minded and have a broad understanding of those issues and attendant consequences that encompass global health.

The theme for this meeting will be **"Complementary and Alternative Medicine"** which will be examined from the perspectives of the various standing committees of the IFMSA which include Public Health, Reproductive Health and AIDS, Medical Education, Human Rights and Peace, and so forth. Alongside the academic stream students will be exposed to the Federation's various activities, projects and campaigns. Past Australian delegates can no doubt attest that the IFMSA GA provides a unique form for future doctors to participate in, and engage with, global health on the world stage.

Important Details

AMSA is able to send a total of **16 delegates** to the March Meeting and aims to select the delegation as early as possible to help minimize the costs of airfares and conference registration and to allow delegates to organize their finances accordingly.

Selection of Delegates

Applicants must complete the following for their application:

1. Write a **Letter of Motivation** (maximum 1 page) outlining the reasons why you would like to attend the IFMSA GA, why you believe that you should be selected, and how you will use your new knowledge/skills upon your return to your medical school and associated student group(s).
2. Complete a **CV** (maximum 2 pages) that highlights your education, experience, skills, qualities, and interests, particularly pertaining to the global health field

Applications can be sent via email to the AMSA Global Health Officer (global@amsa.org.au) before **2359 hours AEST, Saturday 31st October, 2009**. Applications received after this time will not meet the eligibility criteria.

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Australian Medical Students'
Association Limited
ABN 67 079 544 513

The final selection of delegates will be made over the following days and all applicants will be notified of whether they are successful or not by **Sunday 8th November, 2009**. *Please make sure that you will be in contact for this period of time in order to organize conference registration.* In the event that AMSA is unable to contact a selected delegate after reasonable efforts are made, the delegate will forfeit their place and AMSA may need to select a another applicant in their place. A number of applicants will be informed that they are on the waiting list, and will be selected as a delegate in the case of another delegate having to withdraw from the conference.

Registration Costs

GA Registration: The cost of registration has been set by the Organizing Committee of the General Assembly and will be **EUR €340** for each delegate. Registration includes all venues, accommodation and catering for the duration of the General Assembly.

AMSA is aware that participation in a GA comes with a significant financial burden. Although the Association will provide assistance in the form of advice and official letters of support, **AMSA is unable to directly subsidize the cost of attending the GA.** Previous delegates have reduced such costs through securing sponsorship and grants with varied success. If the delegate position is accepted, however, the applicant must accept full responsibility of the cost associated with attending the GA and, if necessary, be prepared to use personal contributions to fund their participation in the event of incomplete external financial support. The registration fees will be expected to be paid within two months following the acceptance of a position at the GA. Failure to do so may result in the delegate position being offered to another applicant.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the selection process or funding queries, please don't hesitate to contact me using the details provided below.

AMSA would strongly encourage any student interested in global health to take this unique opportunity to attend a General Assembly. With over 500 students from a range of national and cultural backgrounds the GA is a unique opportunity to experience collaboration within a truly global sphere.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Kind regards,

Kieran Owens

Global Health Officer

Australian Medical Students' Association

0416 741 031

global@amsa.org.au

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IFMSA Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting 2010 – Call for Applications

In addition, the IFMSA Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) will be held following the MM10 as a separate conference. The APRM will be held from **16th – 21st March, 2010** in **Bangkok, Thailand**.

The APRM is attended by medical students from throughout the Asia-Pacific region and has a similar structure to an IFMSA general assembly insofar as the primary academic activity consists of workshops based around the main standing committees of the IFMSA which cover the following areas:

- Public Health
- Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS
- Human Rights and Peace
- Medical Education
- Professional (that is, clinical) Exchanges
- Research Exchanges

In addition will be project presentations, cultural events and focus sessions based on the theme '**complementary and alternative medicines**'. The APRM offers exposure to IFMSA and medical student activities in the Asia-Pacific region and serves as a fantastic springboard for any students wanting to become involved in regional projects or campaigns which are multinational in scope, many of which are regional implementations of international IFMSA programs. IFMSA meetings commonly take place in Europe and the Americas, on account of IFMSA membership, and so it is rare to have large conferences in our neighborhood – *take advantage of proximity and apply if you have any interest in the IFMSA*.

Important Details

AMSA is able to send **50 delegates** or more to the APRM.

There is elasticity in response to demand such that if we exceed fifty Australian delegates the venue booking in Bangkok can be expanded. Ideally we will try to accommodate as many applicants as we can, though note that this will be easier if we receive applications earlier rather than later. Students are more than welcome to apply for *both* the APRM and MM10 – doing so will *not* compromise your chances for selection for MM10.

Selection of Delegates

Applicants must complete the following for their application:

1. Write a **Letter of Motivation** (maximum 1 page) outlining the reasons why you would like to attend the IFMSA APRM, why you believe that you should be selected, and how you will use your new knowledge/skills upon your return to your medical school and associated student group(s).
2. Complete a **CV** (maximum 2 pages) that highlights your education, experience, skills, qualities, and interests, particularly pertaining to the global health field

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Note that applications for the APRM will be less competitive so students are welcome to submit an abbreviated CV and a short letter. The letter will primarily be for us to ensure that we can direct you to people and activities at the conference which will best help you achieve your goals and satisfy your personal interests.

Applications can be sent via email to the AMSA Global Health Officer (global@amsa.org.au) before **2359 hours AEST, Saturday 31st October, 2009**. Applications received after this time will not meet the eligibility criteria.

The final selection of delegates will be made over the following days and all applicants will be notified of whether they are successful or not by **Sunday 8th November, 2009**. *Please make sure that you will be in contact around this time in order to arrange conference registration.*

Registration Costs

The cost of registration has been set by the organizing committee of the APRM and will be **EUR €240** for each delegate. Registration includes all venues, accommodation and catering for the duration of the APRM.

AMSA is aware that participation in an IFMSA conference comes with a significant financial burden. Although the Association will provide assistance in the form of advice and official letters of support, **AMSA is unable to directly subsidize the cost of attending the APRM**. Previous delegates have reduced such costs through securing sponsorship and grants with varied success. If the delegate position is accepted, however, the applicant must accept full responsibility of the cost associated with attending the APRM and, if necessary, be prepared to use personal contributions to fund their participation in the event of incomplete external financial support. The registration fees will be expected to be paid within two months following the acceptance of a position at the APRM. Failure to do so may result in the delegate position being offered to another applicant.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the selection process or funding queries, please don't hesitate to contact me using the details provided below.

AMSA would strongly encourage any student interested in global health to take this unique opportunity to attend an IFMSA APRM and to take advantage of the various opportunities that exist within the IFMSA.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Kind regards,

Kieran Owens

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