

# President's Message

## Dear EMWA Members,

In the apparently quiet time after the spring conference in Barcelona, much has been going on in the background of the association's life. Before moving to the details of our activities, I would like to mention that two veteran members of the Head Office, Candi Bond Gunning and Sophie Brocklehurst, ended their work for EMWA after the conference in Barcelona. They played an important role for our successful conferences in the past, and we will miss them at the registration desk in the future. On behalf of the Executive Committee, the past Presidents, and the EMWA volunteers, I would like to warmly thank Candi and Sophie for their valuable support and great collaboration, as well as our enjoyable time together.

Recently we had to say goodbye to another person, long-time member Nicky Dodsworth, who was very committed to EMWA; she enriched our educational programme with her knowledge and our hearts with her bright personality. In this MEW issue, we dedicate some space to remember her in a more personal way with comments from members who knew her well.

Turning now to the activities of the past 3 months, let me mention just a few items.

- We have been planning the autumn conference in Warsaw, assessing new workshops, working on our presence on the social media and in the web, streamlining the EMWA Newsblast, and enhancing the webinar programme. Right after the conference in Barcelona, a number of volunteers began planning the symposium and the expert seminars for the next spring conference. They have identified various relevant topics and are contacting potential speakers from regulatory authorities, industry, and international societies. The committees and groups involved have recently grown to ensure well-balanced expertise and task sharing.
- There have been some calls for volunteers over the last few months to seek support in various areas of EMWA: I was really pleased to see that members with varying levels of experience have shown interest. Bringing together volunteers with different backgrounds, levels of experience, and ideas in our sub-committees is a crucial way to enhance and tailor what we offer to our members.
- In line with this aim, I am currently exploring

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topics and needs that could be addressed by our experienced members, the holders of the Nick Thompson fellowship, and our past presidents. I strongly believe that EMWA should benefit from their expertise and knowledge of the association, as well as gather suggestions from them with regard to new initiatives and offerings for experienced members. Establishing working groups within EMWA can more effectively lead to informed discussions on specific topics and new initiatives.

- We are working in parallel on our relationships and collaborations with other international professional associations. The Joint Position Statement has been translated into two new languages (Russian and Farsi), an important step forward to further raise awareness about the role of professional medical writers. The role of EMWA within the medical communicators and medical

writers community has been increasingly recognised over time; besides the Joint Position Statement, we have recently been in touch with other organisations with regard to other possible areas of cooperation and expert groups. I look forward to reporting on these exciting projects soon!

- The Ambassador programme is being carried on at a steady pace and we are increasing our network with universities, career events, and meetings for medical communicators.

As you see, there is much to do and support is continuously needed!

Let me conclude my message with a warm invitation to our autumn conference. The full conference programme is online and the registration is open. See you in Warsaw!

**Tiziana von Bruchhausen**  
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