



Haig Physical Medicine
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ISPRM Haim Ring Award Committee
c/o Chulhyun Ahn and Moon Suk Bang

Dear Colleagues,

I am honored to be nominated for this prestigious award. As requested, I will provide the information requested in your document entitled: Haim Ring Award Nominee Statement of Contribution to International Exchange in Rehabilitation.

Nominee's primary and secondary affiliated institutions (hospital/medical center; university affiliation, if applicable; town/city and country)

- I am currently Emeritus Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in the School of Medicine, with adjunct appointment in the Ross School of Business, at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. I am also Volunteer Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Medical College of Wisconsin, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA.
- My clinical practice is at Haig Physical Medicine, in Williston, Vermont, USA.

Outreach of the nominee to international programs (e.g. through ISPRM, through institution's academic observership program, through the nominee's individual effort)

My outreach has been extensive and spread over 20 years, so it is not completely captured in a note to the committee. I'll highlight major efforts here:

- I was the first American Visiting Professor at the Vienna Medical University Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, where I spent six months studying the place of rehabilitation in European and global health systems and began a long collaboration with European PRM academics, leading to numerous international exchanges and collaborations.
- I established and lead the only PRM fellowship training programs in English-speaking sub-Saharan Africa, an intensive two-year on-line, in-person fellowship in Ghana and Ethiopia. This project has resulted in dozens of international exchanges as well as two conferences every week, one led by myself and another by faculty from around the world.
- I held the first conference on disaster rehabilitation before the ISPRM Istanbul meeting, then shepherded this concept to ISPRM, the WHO, and other organizations so that it is now among the most popular committees in our organization. Along the way this project sponsored dozens of international exchanges, including a major grant that funded my students and Jianan Li's Chinese students to travel the world studying disaster rehabilitation, along with a six-month

deployment of my brother, Tom Haig, a T-12 spinal cord injury patient, to assist in educating Nepal earthquake victims from his wheelchair.

- The field of PRM was established in the country of Brunei through my work with the government and private sector to mentor young clinicians and build a large national rehabilitation hospital.

Information regarding the program each academic observer has participated in.

Highlights include:

- Principle investigator on 13 funded projects involving international colleagues.
- Hosting and mentoring of 13 international residents or fellows, and students for extended visits.
- Founding the University of Michigan's Global Health and Disparities pathway, which teaches global health throughout the four years of medical school. This program selects 20-30 medical students each year, most of whom are sent overseas for the summer of their M-1 year.
- Various projects that have sent at least 40 other University of Michigan students overseas for a month or more to study areas related to rehabilitation.
- 24 peer-reviewed scientific papers authored with international students and mentees, in addition to dozens of publications in collaboration with global leaders.
- At least 38 scientific presentations on global rehabilitation with others in the international community.
- Four international awards for my international mentees for their work in global rehabilitation.

Teaching outside nominee's local institutions

Highlights include:

- Nine international awards or keynote speakers.
- 37 invited lectures or visiting professorships in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and Oceania.
- Over 200 invited lectures away from my institution.
- Formal consultant to national governments in Ghana, Liberia, Ethiopia and Brunei.
- Longitudinal major mentorships with colleagues in Pakistan, Brunei, Austria, Ghana, Ethiopia, China, and Canada, among others.
- Organization of global rehabilitation meetings in Turkey and Bangladesh

Write a statement on nominee's contribution to international exchange (not to exceed 200 words).

After a highly successful career as a researcher and teacher in the United States, I turned my focus to helping advance medical rehabilitation throughout the world. Working with some of the world's top leadership experts and economists, my approach was to develop sustainable local leadership for rehabilitation in other countries.

I used a six-month sabbatical at Vienna Medical University to examine Ghana as a laboratory to determine how local experts can sustain rehabilitation. This expanded through formation of the not-for-profit International Rehabilitation Forum and work with numerous ISPRM-related committees. My work has changed WHO policy to obligate training of rehabilitation professionals.

After holding the first meeting on rehabilitation response to disasters, I advocated for ISPRM to lead this effort in what is now one of the strongest committees in the Society. This led to dozens of international collaborations and exchanges involving physicians, scientists, and students from every continent; numerous grants to support them; and dozens of publications and awards to mentees.

I continue to remotely direct rehabilitation fellowships in Ghana and Ethiopia. In United States, I have been fortunate to become a major resource for students in rehabilitation who hope to study global rehabilitation or connect with or volunteer overseas.