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— Christine Baker,
Chair of IFDM 2010

Successful IFDM 2010 in Los Angeles Paves Way for IFDM 2012 in London



The recent IFDM 2010 in Los Angeles in September – the fifth since the biennial International Forum in Disability Management (IFDM) was launched in 2002 – was a resounding success providing valuable networking opportunities for the more than 400 registered delegates from 34 countries who attended and benefited from the leading edge initiatives that were presented regarding disability management programs, policies and research. With an overwhelming response to the Call for Papers, the task of including as many presentations as possible within a structured framework during the two-and-one-half day event was a dilemma that most conference organizers would envy.

Chair of IFDM 2010 Christine Baker was enthusiastic about the response to this year’s Forum: “California was so pleased to host the IFDM 2010. The issue of disability management and how to improve return to work resonated from prominent national specialists in disability management across the world; it was a truly collaborative event.”

While there were many excellence presentations, of particular note were the plenary remarks by Dame Carol Black, Britain’s Director for Health and Work. Her presentation, “Maximising the Health and Well-Being of the Working-age Population” emphasized the need for government collaboration, building consensus, facilitating change, and increasing awareness and support to create successful disability management and return to work outcomes.

Building on the successful IFDMs held in Canada in 2002, the Netherlands in 2004, Australia in 2006, Germany in 2008 and Los Angeles in 2010, the torch has now been transferred to the Royal Society of Medicine in the United Kingdom, which together with Unum and a national / international advisory committee will organize IFDM 2012, which will take place in London, England September 10-12, 2012. For further details, please visit the IFDM 2012 website at: <http://ifdm2012.rsm.ac.uk/>



Giving credit where it's due

Staging the IFDM always represents a major logistical, organizational and individual commitment by the host nation and while the IFDM program content is supported through an international advisory committee, ultimate success is grounded in the efforts of the national committee and the organizing staff.

IFDM 2010 would not have been possible but for the dedication, leadership and unwavering commitment of IFDM 2010 Chair Christine Baker and Greg Krohm, Executive Director of the IAIABC and their respective organizations' hard-working staff.

The host organizations would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who were involved in helping to organize this year's event. Christine Baker, Chair of IFDM 2010 and Executive Officer of the California Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation; along with John C. Duncan, Director, California Department of Industrial Relations; and Gregory Krohm, Executive Director, International Association of Industrial Accidents Boards and Commissions would like to particularly thank the following for their input:

- Sean McNally, Grimmway Farms, Commissioner, Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation
- Wolfgang Zimmermann, Executive Director, National Institute of Disability Management and Research



They would also like to thank the entire IFDM 2010 Advisory Committee, which was made up of the following individuals, listed in alphabetical order:

- Carrie Bibens, Director Clinical, Vocational Medical Quality Assurance, Unum
- Susanne Bruyère, Associate Dean of Outreach, Cornell University, Industrial Labor Relations School
- Nick Buys, Dean, Learning and Teaching, Griffith University, Australia
- Marcia Carruthers, President / CEO, Disability Management Employer Coalition
- Brenda Croucher, Executive Director, Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada
- Lex Frieden, Professor of Rehabilitation, Baylor School of Medicine
- Henry Harder, Chair, Health Sciences Programs, College of Arts, Social and Health Sciences, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada
- Nikola Lafrenz, Ministerial Director, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany
- Bryon MacDonald, California Work Incentives Initiative Program Director, World Institute on Disability
- Friedrich Mehrhoff, Head of Rehabilitation and International Relations, Federal Social Accident Insurance (DGUV), Germany
- Barbara Murray, Senior Specialist in Vocational Rehabilitation, International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva, Switzerland
- Robin Nagel, National Project Manager, integrated Disability Management Workplace Safety, Labor Management partnership, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.
- Patricia Owens, Senior Level Expert, Disability Programs and Issues, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Education, Workforce and Income Security Team
- Susan Parker, Office of Disability Employment Policy, U.S. Department of Labor
- Tom Rankin, Board Member, State Fund, California and formerly AFL-CIO
- Joy Reymond, Head of Rehabilitation and Health Management Services, Unum, United Kingdom
- Valerie Royle, President and CEO, Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board, Canada
- Seth Seabury, Economist, RAND Corporation
- Kristin Tugman, Director, Health and Productivity Development, Unum