



Friday

Many delegates commenced the day on a high after their home visit on Thursday night. Feedback from these visits was very positive and there was an air of excitement, and as usual this event is often the most popular of the congress. Council delegates attended the final Council meeting on Friday morning.

Plenary sessions

Jody Vassallo, a home economist who also happens to be a food writer and publisher, food stylist and consultant, provided an insight into her daily life. While the days were long, they were also interesting and connected with many delegates in the room who share similar daily commitments. Jody encouraged all delegates to ensure they name themselves as home economists, thereby serving the purpose of educating the wider industry of the benefits home economists bring that add an edge.



Professor Donna Pendergast, Dean of Education at Griffith University provided the closing plenary address. Donna focused on the importance of achieving the intent of home economics - that is, to focus on the dual goals of optimising wellbeing and facilitating lifelong learning. Donna urged delegates to remember to build an evidence-base to their contributions, and provided insights into the rebranding strategy currently being led by the IFHE Think Tank Committee. Donna also led a reflection of the congress to date, sharing the

following as the quotes that were being heard in the conversations of congress delegates:

- oikos - the art of living
- illusions of well-being
- The world has enough resources for need, but not enough for greed
- Rise to the occasion
- We know how valuable home economics is... but this is not known to others
- Bring it to others
- Be proud and loud
- Focus on children, make it normal
- World-wide-woes
- Feeling safe is lost
- This is the life
- Validate the claims
- Connect with worldwide agendas
- Also focus on the action of our professional intent - optimise well-being and provide opportunities for lifelong learning
- IFHE World Congress - The Olympics of home economics

Book Launch

Editors professors Donna Pendergast and Kaija Turkki launched the book, *Creating Home Economics Futures - The Next 100 Years*, which includes contributions from 34 home economists from around the globe, many of whom were present at the congress to share this important event. The book is a commitment to the future of the profession, and urges all professionals to engage with the megatrends and contribute to future proofing the profession. Please enjoy the photos of authors included in this weblog.

Best paper award

For the first time at Congress IFHE has included a "Best Refereed Paper" recognition. This aligns with the inclusion of peer reviewed full papers for the first time at Congress, which lifts the academic

standing of the congress from being non-research compliant to meeting all credentials for research points aggregations internationally. This means our participants who have a peer reviewed paper can claim their papers are research outcomes. They can also seek funding support and their institutions may receive research funding based on their paper publication. The following 5 papers were selected for consideration for the possible best refereed paper award:

- JF Vermaas & HJ Steyn "The influence of Anolyte as an environmentally friendly disinfectant on the strength properties of cotton, polyester/cotton and polyester"
- Catherine Amoroso Leslie "The One Hour Dress: Creativity and Innovation from the 1920s for Today"
- Donna Pendergast & Yvonne Dewhurst "Home Economics and Food Literacy - an international Investigation"
- Patti J. Fisher & Sophie T Anong "Health and Household Saving Behavior"
- Barbara Woods "Standards as Context for Reform: Building Capacity and Sustainability through Home Economics Education"



Donna Pendergast and Yvonne Dewhurst were named the recipients of the inaugural Best Refereed Paper Award.

Closing Ceremony



Dr Helen Durham, global campaigner with a PhD in criminal law focussing on war crimes, and who works for the Red Cross, provided a rich context

for the closing ceremony. Helen shared her vast experience, and provided insights into the challenges of her work and how she balances this

with family life. She closed by reciting a special poem in Australia's history written by Dorothea Mackellar when she was feeling homesick for Australia. The poem is called "My Country".



Handing over the Presidency from Professor Geraldene Hodelin to Carol Warren was a feature of the closing ceremony, with

the symbolic passing on of the chain of office. Finally, the hosts for the next world congress, to be held in Daejeon Korea in 2016, received the flag of congress.



Congress Banquet



The congress banquet provided a rich end to the week, with entertainment and good food. Thank you Home Economics Victoria for a fabulous Congress! The best yet!

