



Call for “Expressions of Interest” to Host the 2012 XI World Congress of Bioethics

The International Association of Bioethics (IAB) is now receiving “Expressions of Interest” from universities, bioethics institutions/organizations/agencies to host the Eleventh World Congress of Bioethics, to be held in 2012. To achieve its objectives (see the Association’s mission statement), the IAB conducts biennial international bioethics conferences, typically in the last few months of even numbered years. Past Congresses have been held in Croatia (2008), China (2006), Australia (2004), Brazil (2002), the United Kingdom (2000), Japan (1998), the United States (1996), Argentina (1994), and the Netherlands (1992). The 10th World Congress will be held in Singapore in 2010.

In selecting hosts for World Congresses, the Board gives consideration to several factors including the:

- Proposed theme of Congress
- Location of host country or region (the IAB seeks geographical diversity in Congress locations)
- Capacity of the venue: hotel accommodations, transportation and communication (Congresses typically attract between 500-900 participants)
- Commitment and synergy of the local organizing committee(s)
- Organizational management: including plans to secure financial and sponsorship support for the Congress, travel and accommodation expenses of the IAB Board, and scholarship support for participants from developing countries

Institutions interested in hosting the 2012 Congress should submit an “Expression of Interest” in the form of a 2 – 4 page document, clearly indicating:

- The name and complete address of the bidding institution/organization (including the name of the contact person)
- The proposed theme and dates of the Congress
- A brief description of the local organizing committee
- A brief description of the proposed meeting site
- Potential sources of financial and sponsorship support for the Congress, including the ability to sufficiently underwrite any losses that may be incurred during the Congress
- Translation services and language policy (the official language of World Congresses is English)
- Any special considerations deemed relevant to the local context

The “Expression of Interest” should be submitted (preferably electronically) to:

The International Association of Bioethics
Email: bioethics-international@kssp.upd.edu.ph

PO Box 280
University of the Philippines
Diliman, Quezon City 1101
Philippines
Telefax: +63 2 426 9590

Selection Process

- The IAB Board will promptly acknowledge receipt of all “Expressions of Interest,” and review them carefully.
- Short-listed bidders will be notified and requested to develop full proposals for submission to the IAB Board in due course. (The IAB Secretariat will furnish the short-listed institutions with all the information necessary to prepare their proposals).
- Institutions/organizations submitting the best bids will be invited to present their proposals and/or provide further information to a meeting of the IAB Board, details of which will be provided to the institutions in due course.
- The winning bidder will have an opportunity to make a brief presentation concerning the plans for 11th World Congress at a ceremony during the 10th World Congress of Bioethics in Singapore.

Potential sponsors for World Congresses after 2010 may also express their preliminary interest in hosting such meetings to the IAB Secretariat. Please note, however, that the selection criteria and process described above are revised periodically, and are subject to change. The formal bidding process for the 11th World Congress will be opened by the IAB Board following its meeting in 2008 in Croatia.

Other Hosting Opportunities

Institutions or organizations wishing to hold a conference or symposium as a means of hosting a meeting of the IAB Board in an odd-number year between World Congresses should also contact the Secretariat for further information. These interim meetings, though not World Congresses, offer a unique opportunity for bioethics institutions to increase the local and international presence of their institutions through their association with the IAB. Board members are pleased to present lectures and/or participate in other educational activities in host institutions during these meetings (please see the professional descriptions of IAB Board members). The Board would welcome expressions of interest for 2009 and thereafter.