

## INTRODUCTION

## **Neurosurgical international education**

Isabelle M. Germano, MD, MBA,<sup>1</sup> Najia El Abbadi, MD,<sup>2</sup> Katharine Drummond, MBBS, MD, FRACS,<sup>3</sup> Andrés Rubiano, MD,<sup>4</sup> William F. J. Harkness, MD,<sup>5</sup> and Franco Servadei, MD<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, New York; <sup>2</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, International Cheikh Zaid Hospital, Abulcassis University of Health Sciences, Rabat, Morocco; <sup>3</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, Royal Melbourne Hospital, University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia; <sup>4</sup>Neurological Surgery Program, Department of Neurosurgery and Neurosciences Institute, Universidad El Bosque, Bogotá, Colombia; <sup>5</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, UCL-Institute of Child Health, London, United Kingdom; and <sup>6</sup>Department of Neurosurgery, Humanitas University, Milan, Italy

DUCATING the next generation of neurosurgeons is a great privilege and responsibility for our specialty. This evolving process will ensure that our patients who require neurosurgical treatment receive excellent care, no matter where they are in the world. In this issue of *Neurosurgical Focus*, we sought to solicit papers that highlighted differences and similarities in neurosurgical education and training across the world, including new educational tools and paradigms to reduce inequality and increase access to neurosurgical care.

This issue of *Neurosurgical Focus* meets our goal of featuring papers from all 5 continents that review different aspects of neurosurgical education, ranging from structure of and changes to the neurosurgery residency curriculum; challenges in harmonizing training across countries and geographical areas; advances in teaching using 3D printing, augmented reality, and simulation; involvement in international activities; concerns about residents' wellbeing; and engagement in the international activities of neurosurgical care providers.

The call for papers generated an extraordinary number of submissions, highlighting the avid interest of neurosurgeons in comparing and contrasting international educational models to strive for the global improvement of neurosurgical education. After the completion of manuscript submission and review, we believe this issue provides a comprehensive overview of this topic and will inspire all involved to continue our international collaborative efforts.

While no single issue of this journal can encompass the entire breadth of worldwide neurosurgical education and training, we hope this issue gives the readers a sense of the accomplishments to date and challenges for the future in promoting the education of the next generation of neurosurgeons in different regions of the world.

https://theins.org/doi/abs/10.3171/2019.12.FOCUS191008

## **Disclosures**

Dr. Germano serves as a consultant for Brainlab and Integra, and reports ownership in Elminda. Dr. Servadei serves as a consultant for Finceramica and Integra Life.

## Correspondence

Isabelle M. Germano: isabelle.germano@mountsinai.org.