

## Stronger

### The second IC2A Inspirational Lecture by Desmond Tong

On Saturday 5th October 2019 at the Opening Ceremony of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) 17th World Congress in Kobe, Japan, Desmond Tong will deliver IC2A's second Inspirational Lecture, entitled 'Stronger'. After the lecture he will be presented with the IC2A Inspirational Medal by the President of IC2A, Dr Nils-Odd Tønnevoid.

In early 2019 a call for nominations from IC2A Amputee Association members and ISPO Board Members was made for our Inspirational Speaker. Desmond Tong was selected from a shortlist of nominations by a panel of representatives of IC2A and the ISPO.



Desmond adaptive climbing

#### About Desmond

Desmond was an active sportsman before a motorcycle accident in 1999 led to seven surgeries and a below the knee amputation. At age 22 the traumatic experience led him to feel helpless, experience feelings of depression and even suicide, as he lost freedom and mobility.

Desmond gained strength from his religion, family and friends in his journey of rehabilitation. He worked for eight years before receiving a scholarship and completing a university degree in prosthetics and orthotics. Despite setbacks, he became a Senior Prosthetist/Orthotist and is now a Business Development Manager for a leading manufacturer and supplier of prosthetic limbs.

Desmond's love of sport has not changed since his amputation. In 2014 he participated in the ASEAN Para games in Myanmar representing Singapore in the 100m sprint event as well as the discus. In 2015 he trained in archery to participate in ASEAN Para games in Singapore. He has tried over 14 other sports and does not shy away from the extreme sports of sky diving and dirt biking!

Desmond uses his experience in trying different sports to encourage and inspire other amputees to try it for themselves. He has helped and founded amputee support groups. When asked why he became a prosthetist his answer is clear 'To make a difference'.

One amputee has described meeting Desmond and its impact: "My specialist also arranged for me to meet with national para-archer Desmond Tong, who was then working at FLC (at Tan Tock Seng Hospital) as a prosthetist. I thought to myself, 'Wow, I didn't know amputees could excel at sports!' He inspired me to get back into surfing." (Lifewise 58 Nov-Dec 2017)

In 2017 Desmond was awarded an 'Honourable Mention' the highest accolade conferred at Healthcare Humanity Awards (HHA) annual ceremony in Singapore. Today, Desmond is happily married with three small children in another phase of his life. Desmond's story is inspirational and IC2A is proud to award him its second Inspirational Medal.

Learn more about Desmond Tong's story:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmInmD8N\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmInmD8N_g)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WiiNvdtVImM>



Desmond enjoying life with his family

## Amputee Association Members

In 2015 IC2A was established by 7 founding member country amputee associations.

In 2019 it has now grown to **15 member associations** across **four continents**.

Our newest Amputee Association is from the Côte d'Ivoire and joined in September 2019

- Australia: [www.limbs4life.org.au](http://www.limbs4life.org.au)
- Belgium: Amptraide asbl [www.amptraide.eu](http://www.amptraide.eu)
- Côte d'Ivoire: Ipademci
- Denmark: Amputationsforeningen [www.amputationsforeningen.dk](http://www.amputationsforeningen.dk)
- France: ADEPA – Association de Defense et Etude des Personnes Amputees [www.adepa.fr](http://www.adepa.fr)
- Germany: BMAB – Bundesverband für Menschen mit Arm- oder Beinamputation [www.bmab.eu](http://www.bmab.eu)
- Ireland: Amputee Disability Federation Ireland [www.amputee.ie](http://www.amputee.ie)
- Netherlands: KMK – KorterMaarKrachtig [www.kortermaarkrachtig.com](http://www.kortermaarkrachtig.com)
- Nepal: Nepal Amputee Association [www.ic2a.eu/nepal-amputee-association](http://www.ic2a.eu/nepal-amputee-association)
- Norway: MOMENTUM – Foreningen for arm- og benprotesebrukere [www.momentum.nu](http://www.momentum.nu)
- UK: The Limbless Association [www.limbless-association.org](http://www.limbless-association.org)
- Slovakia: Asociácia Protetických Pacientov (APP) [www.appslovakia.sk](http://www.appslovakia.sk)
- Sweden: AmpisLIV <http://ampisliv.se>
- Switzerland: Promembro [www.promembro.ch](http://www.promembro.ch)
- Zambia Disability Mentorship Forum [www.ic2a.eu/zdma/](http://www.ic2a.eu/zdma/)

Our ambition is to have country members from ALL world regions.

## Corporate Members 2019

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**NEW AMPUTEE ASSOCIATION AND CORPORATE MEMBERS WELCOME!**

***Are you attending the ISPO 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress?***

***Don't forget to join in IC2A's activities!***

***Not attending? Look out for pictures and video on our Facebook page and website***

**Saturday 5th October**

**9:20 to 12noon**

**Opening Ceremony including IC2A Inspirational Lecture 2019**

**World Hall, KICC**

As part of the opening ceremony Desmond Tong will receive only the second IC2A Inspirational Medal awarded. Come and listen to his engaging real life story. His story illustrates that life after limb loss has much to offer and that an individual's goals can be achieved to the highest level.

In 2017 our first IC2A medal winner in 2017 was Giles Duley, a photographer who continues to inspire people around the world every day. <https://www.facebook.com/GilesDuleyPhotography/>

**Saturday 5th October**

**13:00 to 15:00**

**IC2A Think Tank Theme - Quality Fit of Prosthetic Sockets**

**Meeting Room 406, Floor 4, KICC**

***Open only to one representative per full member association, corporate members, partners of IC2A, representatives of the World Health Organization and the International Committee of the Red Cross.***

This will be a group and plenary discussion session.

**Sunday 6th October**

**13:00 to 14:15**

**Basic Instructional Course:**

**Peer Support for amputees in the hospital and in the community**

**Room 403, KICC**

This will be chaired by Sandy Sexton (IC2A Secretariat Manager) with speakers:

Dieter Júptner (affiliation BMAB), Mark Miller and Geir Bornkessel (affiliation Momentum) and Jean-Pascal Hons-Olivier (affiliation ADEPA).

Peer support is a way of giving and receiving help based on the key principles of respect, shared responsibility and agreement on what is helpful. Peer support offers an empathetic understanding of another person's situation based on a mutual shared experience and can be seen in various setting, informally or formally in someone's life. In recent years there has been more research in this area and more organisations are offering peer support services.

This Basic Instructional Course will consider what peer support services are needed, available and effective with a particular focus on peer support for amputees. It will explore not only examples of peer hospital visiting, but also social forms of peer support.

**Monday 7th October Exercise class for IC2A Amputee Association Members and Volunteers**

**08:00 to 08:45**

**Venue to be confirmed to Amputee Association Members and Volunteers**

The exercise class is designed for all individuals with lower limb prosthetics. It is an exercise class for everyone regardless of your physical activity levels. The class will include exercises that are designed to assist with balance, strength, mobility and independence and will be designed to be able to perform by yourself or in pairs so you can exercise at home, work or on holidays regardless of your environment. This class will utilise therabands and all you need is to bring yourself, water and wear comfortable clothing. It is a non-sweaty class and suitable just before our AGM. We look forward to seeing amputee association members and volunteers there!

**Monday 7th October**

**9:00 to 11:00**

**IC2A Annual General Meeting Number 4**

**Venue to be confirmed to Association Members**

Open to full members of IC2A (Amputee Association members). Association members not at the Congress are invited to take part via Skype by prior notice to the secretariat.

**Photographs, video and social media**

IC2A's social media (Facebook and Twitter) will be used to share our experiences of the congress and exhibition – especially the prosthetic technologies and services offered by our corporate members.

## The IC2A Board 2018 – 2020

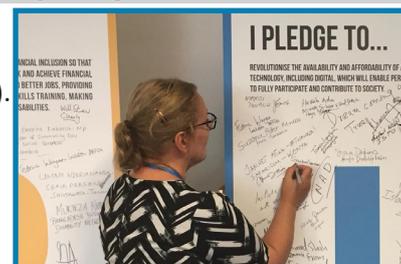
In May 2018 we held our Annual General Meeting in Leipzig, Germany and our elected Board was formed according to the regulations shown in our IC2A Governing Document. The term office for our elected Board members is 2 years. The IC2A Board is comprised of 3 people elected by our country member amputee associations:

President: Dr Nils-Odd Tønnevoll, Norway  
Vice President: Dieter Jüptner, Germany  
Secretary: Jean-Pascal Hons-Olivier, France.

The Board is supported by a Secretariat Office managed by Sandra Sexton, Secretariat Manager with Angie Weatherhead as IC2A's membership officer.

## Did you know IC2A signed the Global Disability Summit pledge in 2018?

On the 23rd July 2018 Sandy Sexton, IC2A Secretariat Manager signed the Global Disability Summit Pledge on behalf of IC2A at the Summit in London (pictured right). It said



*"I pledge to revolutionise the availability and affordability of appropriate assistive technology, including digital, which will enable persons with disabilities to fully participate and contribute to society."*

## EPSRC Research Training Centre in the UK - update

IC2A is delighted to be a partner of a new global centre of excellence, the Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Prosthetics and Orthotics at the University of Salford. It is the UK's first P&O doctoral training centre and was launched on 13th June 2019 at Salford. It is set to train up to 60 individuals to doctoral level over the next eight years to address the skills gap in the UK and abroad. The University of Salford led a consortium of partners which includes Imperial College London, the University of Strathclyde and the University of Southampton. It brings together the only two prosthetic and orthotic undergraduate UK education facilities (Salford and Strathclyde).

The £11million project, with £5.3M coming from the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), partners the Centre with 27 industry and clinical partners, including two of the largest manufacturers of prosthetic and orthotic devices, Blatchford and Össur as well as NorthWestern University in the US, the global leader in research in the field. The unique doctoral research training over four years will be complemented by a new Masters' programme operating across all four partner Universities. Students will be supported by national and global industry, and clinical, patient and service partnerships, who will ensure high-quality training, and provide placement and employment opportunities. The Centre has been setting up their MSc course structure and modules for the first year of training and starts delivering the course in October 2019. By June 2019 the University of Salford had already received over 50 high quality applications for the course.

IC2A have committed to provide a speaker(s) for a number of the training modules to give the students specific exposure to prosthetics; and for the annual CDT research conference, to give the students a user perspective. We are also pleased to help to disseminate student research findings to our association members.

We know that capacity building of the workforce is needed at all levels of the system for prosthetics and orthotics provision. Research leadership is certainly needed to address the research needs globally on policy, products, personnel and provision of services in prosthetics.

Further information on the centre is available at:

<https://www.salford.ac.uk/research/doctoral-training-in-prosthetics-and-orthotic/home>

## Keep up to date with IC2A!

**Don't forget** to follow IC2A on Facebook [@ic2aASBL](#) and Twitter [@ic2asecretariat](#) We regularly share posts from our Amputee Association and Corporate Members as well as our own news!

Not on Facebook? Then sign up to our website [www.ic2a.eu](http://www.ic2a.eu) to receive news and updates!