

# **Airlines Medical Directors Association**

## **October 2018 Newsletter**

### **IATA/AMDA Aviation Health Conference**

The first joint IATA/AMDA Aviation Health Conference was held in London from the 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

The IATA Aviation Health Conference has been held for many years under the direction and inspired leadership of Claude Thibeault and has always been very well attended and of a very high scientific quality. The administration for the conference has been expertly carried out by a London based conference organising company called Quaynote.

Claude Thibeault has now retired and your last President, David Powell, with the approval of the AMDA President and the Executive Council, decided that it would be in the interests of both organisations for IATA and AMDA to join together as the sponsors for this conference. The conference is financially secure and usually makes a profit which will be shared between the two organisations.

As your current President it was my privilege to open and close the conference which was attended by over 100 delegates. Several excellent scientific papers were presented over two days in subjects ranging from 'The Aircrew Working Environment'; 'Problems on Board and New Initiatives; 'Things go Wrong with People' and 'Things happening in Flight'.

David Powell, who has replaced Claude Thibeault as IATA's Medical officer, chaired the whole meeting with his usual charm, wit and efficiency and even arranged for a short video cameo at the end when Claude Thibeault was able to address the delegates by video-link from Canada.

There was plenty of time for net-working during the coffee breaks and the opportunity to visit several of the sponsors stands. On the first evening there was a cocktail party which proved to be a great success. The conference room was spacious and light with excellent audio-visual support.

The annual AMDA Scientific Meeting continues to take place and as usual will be held preceding AsMA. Next year the meeting is on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas.

The second joint IATA/AMDA conference will be held in September 2019 in London. I can thoroughly recommend that you attend both conferences if possible. David Powell has, with the consent of the AMDA President and the EC, agreed to chair the joint conference for at least the next two or three years.

I look forward to seeing many members at these conferences.

Dr Martin Hudson  
President AMDA

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