PRESS RELEASE

CHANGE AT THE TOP FOR WFC RESEARCH COUNCIL

Experienced clinician-scientist named as new Chair

Toronto, September 26, 2022. The WFC Board has named Associate Professor Sidney Rubinstein as the new chair of its Research Committee (RC).

Dr Rubinstein, formerly RC vice-chair, has been appointed to the role following the retirement from the committee of Professor Christine Goertz, who steps down after over a decade of service to the WFC.

Dr Goertz has recently been appointed to a new role at Duke University as Vice Chair for Implementation of Spine Health Innovations within the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Duke University School of Medicine.

On stepping down from her role, Dr Goertz commented, “It has been a true honor to serve first as vice chair and then chair of the WFC Research Committee over the past 10 years, including the opportunity to work with the
outstanding international group of chiropractic scientists the WFC has consistently attracted as committee members. My support for the WFC and its important mission remains steadfast and I hope to find new ways to serve the organization in the future.”

Dr Sidney Rubinstein has served as vice chair of the RC since 2020. He is an Associate Professor at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, in the Netherlands, where his particular research interests are related to effectiveness and cost effectiveness of musculoskeletal conditions.

Dr Rubinstein is a 1992 graduate of Los Angeles College of Chiropractic (now part of Southern California University of Health Sciences). He obtained his PhD from Vrije Universiteit whilst working in clinical practice, and continues to see patients three days per week.

“I see it as critically important to my work that I continue to see patients in practice,” he commented. “I appreciate that one of the key roles of research is to see that it is synthesized into practice for the benefit of patients and maintaining my private practice keeps me grounded in understanding what really matters to patients when delivering evidence-based care.”

Dr Rubinstein has worked at the highest level of research, including the prestigious Cochrane Collaboration, where he has led systematic reviews looking at the impact of spinal manipulative therapy, and more recently for the World Health Organization as part of the low back pain guideline development initiative.

Speaking after the appointment, WFC President Dr John Maltby said: “The advance of the chiropractic profession relies on the production of new research and the translation of research into the work of the tens of thousands of clinicians working around the world.

“As we continue to urge every chiropractor to #BeEPIC, we are grateful to those serving on our Research Committee who provide advice and guidance in this area. All of us on the Board congratulate Dr Rubinstein on his appointment and wish him every success in his new role.

“At the same time, we would like to place on record our immense thanks and appreciation of the work of Dr Christine Goertz, whose leadership of the committee has been invaluable.”

The principal role of the WFC’s Research Committee is to advise the Board on matters of research and science. Most recently, this was demonstrated by the production of the WFC’s Statement on Cervical Artery Dissection (www.wfc.org/CADstatement).

An announcement regarding the appointment of a new RC vice chair will be made in due course.