

## 2021 A year of learning

**For referencing** Ayello EA and Chabal LO. 2021 A year of learning. WCET® Journal 2021;41(3):12

We believe this has been another year of adaptation as the world grapples with new strains of COVID-19. From a social and healthcare perspective we are on a continual learning trajectory as we seek to find new ways of caring for patients with COVID as well as supporting the health workforce to withstand associated ramifications. This includes using different learning formats to enable frontline workers to continue learning.

There are several definitions of learning. We believe that common to these definitions learning is a process by which a person acquires knowledge, skills, behaviors, or even new understanding, perspectives, values or attitudes. People have diverse learning styles which need to be considered when developing educational programs or conferences. WCET® is being creative in finding ways to provide learning opportunities for our members in 2021. The Education Committee under Yajuan (Julie) Weng's leadership has developed several interesting webinars. The first one will open on 22 September and close on 21 October. This half day program provides opportunities to explore different aspects of our specialty practice, which all center around the skin. We thank Hollister® for their sponsorship enabling free access to WCET® members. Do tell your colleagues who are not yet WCET® members about the webinar and encourage them to go to our website to register. Another webinar is planned for November and more to follow in 2022. Please check for email announcements and visit our website for the latest webinar information. As we learn about other collaborating organizations' virtual webinars, for example Wound Con, we will circulate this information.

WCET® will participate at two in-person conferences in 2022 with a half day program at the WUWHS congress in Abu Dhabi and our biennial congress being held in Fort Worth, Texas, USA, entitled WOCN<sup>®</sup> 2022: A Global Education Event from WOCN<sup>®</sup> and WCET®. As it is difficult to predict the COVID-19 status and its impact on travel and gatherings, the 2022 Congress will be both in-person and online. Being hybrid; it gives our members the flexibility of how they can attend- in person or virtually. For those of you who remember, the first joint WCET® WOCN<sup>®</sup> Congress in Phoenix Arizona USA, in 2010, was a very special vibrant event. The WCET® planning team lead by Dee Waugh plus Denise Hibbert, Laurent Chabal and Elizabeth Ayello along with Karen Hill from McKenna Management will be collaborating with WOCN's<sup>®</sup> planning team to bring you another great congress. Please see details about these congresses in this issue of the journal and on our website.

The WCET®, is thrilled and honoured to announce they are the recipient of a 'Power of A Silver Award' for its program, "The WCET® NNGF® Twinning Project". This award represents many years of dedicated work by so many WCET® members who worked tirelessly to share their knowledge and teaching to establish programs in China and Africa. All are thanked especially Life Member Elizabeth English, a past WCET® President (who championed several of the education programs) for their efforts. With the commitment and enthusiasm of fantastic volunteers, the WCET® NNGF® Twinning Project has succeeded in providing on-site education so that nurses globally can learn the specialized knowledge of stomal therapy so patients can benefit from their expert care and have better outcomes. Well done everyone!

We thank Susan Barber; McKenna Management for submitting the award application to The American Society of Association Executive (ASAE) (<https://www.asaecenter.org/about-us>) to which McKenna Management belongs. Through its Power of A awards, ASAE celebrates and promotes "the invaluable contributions that associations make to America and the world". Please visit our website to see full award details.

We also take the opportunity to congratulate our colleagues from WOCN<sup>®</sup> who also have win an ASAE Silver award for their WOCN<sup>®</sup> Ostomy Education Day. It is once again a great double win recognition for ET Nursing and both our associations.

So, in this Olympic year, we believe Norma must be smiling and celebrating that WCET®'s medal count is two- Gold medal for most progressive society from the JWC WUWHS and Silver from ASAE for the WCET® NNGF® Twinning Project. All these will not have been possible without team efforts and huge amount of work done to make that happen. The most important thing we have learned this year is the evidence supports our belief that it takes a team to succeed. Thank you all!

Let's keep on doing and learning!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth and Laurent

---

### **Elizabeth A Ayello**

PhD, MS, BSN, RN, ETN, CWON, MAPWCA, FAAN  
WCET® President 2020-2022

### **Laurent O Chabal**

BSc (CBP), RN, OncPall (Cert), Dip (WH), ET  
WCET® President Elect 2020-2022