

ISH COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

Reflecting on the successes of the Americas RAG

CESAR ROMERO

ISH Treasurer, Emory University, Atlanta, USA



As my four-year term as Americas RAG Chair has now come to a close, I find myself with immense gratitude on this journey. For some members of the Committee, it's been a four-year adventure together, from 2020 to 2024, and what a magnificent way to end this chapter – with the ISH meeting in Latin America (LATAM), truly a celebration of the Latin spirit.

The energy of the meeting reflected the vibrancy we're seeing throughout our region – a region that is both clinically and scientifically active, with an ever-growing number of members and exciting initiatives.

In the last four years, as a Committee, we surpassed our original goal of reaching 100 new members in LATAM. Before the ISH2024 meeting, we stood at 144 LATAM members, and now, we've exceeded 200 new members in the region – a growth of over 240%!

Our committee's activities over the past few years haven't just been about numbers; we've been involved in more than 12 initiatives across the

region, bringing countries into the fold that had previously been underrepresented. I hope that this spirit of inclusion and progress continues for years to come.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each member of the Americas RAG for their collaboration, participation in conferences and webinars, contributions to writing articles, and, most importantly, for being there to offer advice, propose ideas, and contribute whenever needed. Their dedication has been invaluable.

As part of ISH's tradition, no one should remain in the same committee leadership role for more than four years, and the time has come for me to step down as the Americas RAG Chair after the Cartagena meeting. I'm pleased to announce that the ISH President and the ISH Council have appointed Dagnovar Aristizabal – a fellow Americas RAG member and the President of the Cartagena meeting – as the next RAG Chair for the upcoming term. I've had the pleasure of working closely with Dagnovar during these years, and I have no doubt



ISH members were part of the Brazilian Society of Hypertension Meeting held in São Paulo, Brazil, from 25 to 27 July 2024.

ISH President George Stergiou and Deputy Chair of the Americas RAG attended the highly successful 30th Meeting of the Argentine Society of Hypertension from 18th to 20th April 2024.



that he will do a fantastic job leading the Americas region forward.

Dagnovar has earned great admiration for his tireless work in the Society, and he was recently elected as a Council member of the ISH – a testament to his dedication.

As for myself, I'm honored to have been invited by the new ISH President, George Stergiou, to serve as ISH Treasurer and be part of the ISH Executive Committee, a role I will embrace with great enthusiasm.

These are exciting times for the Americas region – and I'm excited to see what happens next. I'm looking forward to seeing even more progress in the Americas region in the coming years, thanks to the passion and enthusiasm of those in the region.

Thanks to all those ISH Affiliated Societies that have collaborated with the ISH from 2020-2024 and continue to collaborate with the Society - including.

- American College of Cardiology (ACC)
- Argentine Federation of Cardiology
- Argentine Society of Arterial Hypertension (SAHA)
- Artery LATAM
- Bolivian Nephrology Society
- Brazilian Society of Cardiology

- Brazilian Society of Hypertension
- Central American and Caribbean Society of Arterial Hypertension and Cardiovascular Prevention
- Colombian Association of Internal Medicine (ACMI)
- Colombian Heart Foundation
- Colombian Society of Cardiology
- Inter-American Society of Cardiology (SIAC)
- Inter-American Society of Hypertension (IASH)
- Latin American Society of Hypertension (LASH)
- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) – HEARTS initiative

2022-2024 Americas RAG Members

Chair: Cesar Romero (USA/Argentina)

Deputy Chair: Daniel Piskorz (Argentina)

Members:

Phillip Levy (USA)

Elizabeth Muxfeldt (Brazil)

Raven Voora (USA)

Mayra Ayala (Bolivia)

Dagnovar Arsitizabal (Colombia)

Dawson Calixte (Haiti)

Candace McNaughton (Canada)

Pablo Nakagawa (USA)

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