



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
FOR HOME ECONOMICS

IFHE

Press Release

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“Global Wellbeing” IFHE Congress in Melbourne inspired Home Economists from all over the World

“Oikos” is the root of both ecology and economy. Ecology is the science of the household or home, of ecosystems and species, of ecological processes that renew life on earth. Economy is supposed to be the management of the household.” **Dr Vandana SHIVA**, Navdanya International, India, keynote speaker at the opening session of the XXII Congress of the International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) in Melbourne, Australia in July 2012 delivered an inspiring speech about how Home Economics skills can significantly address global challenges. The Victorian Minister for Education, the Hon Martin DIXON MP opened the IFHE Congress with a warm welcome to Melbourne. Over 750 Congress participants from more than 50 countries around the world attended congress presentations with great enthusiasm, which dealt with topics from different fields of Home Economics such as financial literacy and sustainable development; families and households; education and training; consumer issues; food and nutrition; and textiles and design.

During the symposia, workshops and concurrent sessions, there were more than 400 oral and poster presentations from experts from all over the world who presented research and discussed strategies including best practice which addressed the Congress theme of “Global Wellbeing”. In addition, there was a Trade Expo, an international marketplace, a textiles and design exhibition, home visits, school visits, cultural excursions and technical excursions, all giving an insight into different Home Economics areas of practice in Australia and from around the world.

A new book “Creating Home Economics Futures: The Next 100 Years”, edited by Donna PENDERGAST, Kaija TURKKI and Sue MCGREGOR was launched and the IFHE Resolution to the theme “Global Wellbeing”, approved by the IFHE Council was presented at the IFHE Congress.

At the final session, **Professor Geraldene B. HODELIN**, PhD, CPHE (IFHE President 2008 - 2012) handed over the IFHE Presidency to **Carol WARREN** who becomes the IFHE President 2012 – 2016. In her inaugural address Carol WARREN presented her plan to serve IFHE Members around the world and to strengthen the capacity of the IFHE.