Diane Nickolson joined the Secretariat as Executive Director in January 2010 after working with the society on a consultant basis. She helped to shape the Society we are today.

Diane grew up in a tightly-knit, familial Greek community in Chicago, Illinois. Even at a young age, her ambition, tenacity, aptitude and leadership skills were recognized by both her peers and teachers. She soared through secondary school, graduated early and received a full academic scholarship to college where she studied Psychology and Sociology, laying the groundwork for what would be a remarkable career.

Diane brought more than 20 years of experience in professional societies to ISTM. She worked with healthcare associations and international societies in both a managerial and consultant role throughout her career. A notable highlight includes more than 14 years with the American Bar Association as a Director in its Continuing Legal Education Department. Diane also served as a Deputy Director to an international medical society and was Executive Director of a national optometric association prior to joining ISTM.

Diane has served the Society with great distinction, passion and enthusiasm, playing a critical role in the development and success of ISTM. Highlights over the past decade include:

- Membership has grown from 1,800 in 49 countries to over 4,300 members from 100 countries. Policies she implemented increased membership retention by more than 20%
- Diane has implemented the creation of the Fellows Program, the CTH recertification program, ISTM Foundation, Independent Medical Education Symposium, Member Advantage Program, Retiree and LMIC membership programs, and the ISTM Distance Learning Programs, that include online learning modules and webinars
- The Secretariat team grew from 3 people to 7 professionals under Diane’s leadership.
- The number of Society Interest and Professional Groups have quadrupled
- Two ISTM Summits have been held
- Diane’s work with industry has increased industry support for ISTM programs by more than 300% in the past four years
- The MyISTM member interface has been created
- Diane worked closely with the United States Centers for Disease Control and other contributors to increase funding for GeoSentinel Initiatives.

With an incredible eye for detail, Diane’s expertise has been valuable when selecting conference venues. She is a tough but winsome negotiator and has gotten remarkable deals for ISTM. With her Secretariat colleagues she has supervised multiple CTH examinations, growing the program by 65%, the North American Review and Update Course and the administration of the GeoSentinel Surveillance Project.

As our first Executive Director Diane will be greatly missed by staff, the Executive Board, members and all of our partners. This newsletter contains a collection of expressions of appreciation from society leaders and members. We are honored to have had Diane lead our society as we pursue our goals of promoting healthy, safe and responsible travel for all people crossing international borders.

On behalf of us all, you will be missed incredibly.
A decade ago, Diane Nickolson joined ISTM as our first ever Executive Director. As we say goodbye to Diane at the end of her term, we start ISTM’s next chapter. Many members who have interacted with Diane know her as warm, friendly, and welcoming. Those characteristics reflect the long-standing hallmarks of ISTM that we embrace and which shall continue.

Clearly, Diane has contributed to the growth of ISTM and supported the development of many programs. The North American Travel Medicine Review and Update Course and Certificate in Travel Health have continued to thrive. The ISTM Interest Groups have burgeoned. The GeoSentinel Surveillance Network has expanded, with remarkable output. New initiatives have been created: the ISTM Webinars, the ISTM Fellows Program, and the ISTM Foundation. The ISTM Summits have led to the publication of guidelines and collaboration with partners. Diane is definitely leaving her mark in key arenas: she has amazing skills in meeting organization and institutional knowledge. She has worked with several ISTM Presidents, Executive Boards, and Secretary-Treasurers. She knows everybody and every detail.

Change is never easy. I want to thank Diane for her leadership and excellent support of ISTM. I want to wish Diane the best in her future endeavors. Finally, I want to thank the Executive Board, Officers, Leaders, Secretariat and Members for working to forge our next phase together.

Lin Chen,
United States of America
President, ISTM

Diane Nickolson: a Decade of Service

Ten Reasons Why I Am Profoundly Grateful to Di Nickolson

1. She has been a great mentor for those who sequentially become Leaders for ISTM. She has an ability to gently guide those coming into new roles and is warm, welcoming and makes generous allowance for those who are naïve about many issues.

2. She has been a strong leader but is not abrasive. Di has a commanding presence and has used that to advance the society as it has grown over the last decade.

3. She has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the ISTM history and she is highly attentive to important detail.

4. During on-site visits looking at new conference venues she has a great ability to spot potential problems that are not immediately obvious to anyone else. This starts at the arrival airport and continues through the whole tour at each site.

5. She has values. Di constantly emphasises openness and transparency and works to ensure that this characterizes her interactions with ISTM leaders, the Executive Board and Society members.

6. She understands and promotes good process. This is evident in the Policies and Procedures that she introduced and the Employee Handbook. It helps leaders, Board members and staff to develop a mental map of how things should be done.

7. Di is a tough negotiator. I have characterized her as a winsome hardball. She is engaging in her interactions with managers at hotels and conference centres but drives negotiations forward to the best contract terms possible. When hotels or conference centers fail to deliver and cost-reductions are appropriate she does not let managers off the hook.

8. She is a great forward planner. This is essential for ISTM which starts to look for new conference venues four years ahead. We started thinking about the site for the 2023 conference last year.

9. She has a gift for hospitality and several leaders including me, have enjoyed visiting her home, sharing a wonderful meal, and touring the lake near her house on Robert and Di’s electric pontoon boat.

10. She cares about those she works with. This has been evident in her interactions with ISTM Leaders who face personal difficulty and her care for her staff.

All the effort that Di has invested into ISTM has made it a better and more efficient organisation. This has been at cost. Di has been available in working time, and vacation time. She has replied to e-mails in the early morning, afternoon and late evening, and I have been concerned that at times she has sacrificed her well-being for the sake of the society. As the direction of her life changes we wish her every blessing for the future and express our profound gratitude to her for all that she has given to ISTM.

Mike Jones,
ISTM Secretary-Treasurer
United Kingdom

Retiring/resigning is rarely easy, for either the individual concerned, or the organisation for which they work. This is true just now for both Di and ISTM. It is the end of a decade of intensely invested service by Di in the life of ISTM. Whilst this is an expected period of service for a CEO, that does not make it any less difficult.

I am personally grateful to Di for the following reasons:

1. She has been a great mentor for those who sequentially become Leaders for ISTM. She has an ability to gently guide those coming into new roles and is warm, welcoming and makes generous allowance for those who are naïve about many issues.

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In the December 2018 Travel Medicine News – Year in Review, I reflected on my time as ISTM Secretary-Treasurer and the achievements of the Society during that time were immense. Our Executive Director (ED), Diane Nickolson, was front and center in all these achievements, assisting a new ISTM President every two years with their mission. The activities that she was juggling at any one time were the Biennial Conferences, the regional conferences, the Journal of Travel Medicine, Travel Medicine News, the NewsShare, the Executive Board, the Leadership Council, the vast membership and the groups and committees that play such a vital role.

During Diane’s tenure as ED, we heralded the 25th Anniversary of the ISTM and broke the 4000-member barrier for the first time. I pay tribute to Diane’s contributions and lasting legacy to the society.

Peter A. Leggat, ISTM President-Elect
Australia

My very first encounter with Diane was at the Scientific Program Committee meeting in rainy Boston, Massachusetts in 2010. I remember quite will how I felt lost as a jet-lagged European visiting the US for the first time. Guided by Diane’s text-messages I was directed to a warm and inviting dinner table. It instantly made me feel at home. With an eye for detail, Diane always tried to make you feel part of her family, expressing care and concern.

It has been said over and over again: “Without Diane and her staff, we are lost”. This has been certainly true during my time as Chair of the Scientific Program Committee and as President of ISTM. Diane was always responsive, thoughtful, attentive and supportive. Her negotiations skills are legendary. Together with Robert Steffen and David Freedman, she is the collective memory of the Society.

During her Executive Directorship, ISTM has gone through a major transition. Never before had we so many members; never such a professional Society. Many of the achievements within ISTM could not have been realized without Diane. Just to mention a few: funding of GeoSentinel, move the journal publishing to Oxford University Press, launch of MyISTM, acquisition of unrestricted educational grants for CISM, development of membership benefits, and strengthening of the regional societies.

At the CISM in Washington, DC, Diane was not as present as she had been before and she was missed by many. I think that emptiness will be felt for much longer now.

Leo Visser, Past President
The Netherlands

A Tribute to Diane Nickolson, ISTM Executive Director

In our society, as well as our many other programs, such as the CTH examination, the North American Travel Medicine Review and Update Course, GeoSentinel, and the list goes on. Indeed, such was her incredible outreach that many ISTM members counted her as a friend.

During Diane’s tenure as ED, we heralded the 25th Anniversary of the ISTM and broke the 4000-member barrier for the first time. I pay tribute to Diane’s contributions and lasting legacy to the society.

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Reference
Many kind words...

Dear Diane,
Shell shocked and flabbergasted by your resignation.
So sorry to see you leave.
Looking back at very pleasant contacts in the past and wishing you all the best for the future.
Take care and best wishes,
Erik van Vliet,
The Netherlands

Diane, I hope that you are moving on to another opportunity which matches your extraordinary skills and experience and I hope that you will be good to yourself and afford yourself more time to spend on pursuing your own personal dreams. I hope some of the latter will involve international travel to places you’ve always wanted to visit.

For everything you have done for the ISTM and for the development of travel medicine in general, I thank you sincerely, Diane. On behalf of the Travel Medicine Society of Ireland, I wish you every happiness and good health in the years to come. I look forward to wishing you well in person, perhaps with one final hug!

Best wishes,
Gerard Flaherty
Ireland

Diane Nickolson’s contribution to ISTM has been inestimable. Even before I became involved with the Society, Diane’s excellent reputation for efficiency and organisation preceded her. The Society owes her an enormous debt of gratitude. Her legacy will be celebrated for a long time to come. She has steered the ISTM through many challenges and been instrumental in extending its reach across the world as a truly global community.

I have observed at first hand Diane’s work ethic (was she ever offline we wondered?), commitment, passion, professionalism, and extraordinary ability to bring common sense and calm composure to bear on all matters before the Executive Board. When I first became involved with ISTM, Diane extended a very warm welcome to me and she has shown me great personal kindness over the years. Diane very much struck me as a people person with an innate appreciation for human nature. She greets her friends with the warmest and most sincere of hugs. I’m not much of a hugger myself but I grew to enjoy these embraces over the years!

Many kind words...

Thank you so much for all the work you have done in such an effective and friendly way. You were always available and supportive, helping to find a solution and solve problems. It was always a great pleasure to meet you and have a chance to talk with you. Of course I am no longer a very active member in the society, but each time we had a chance to meet it was always rewarding and also fun.

I wish you all the best for your future activities and if you have a chance to come to Geneva, please let me know and stop by.

With my Best Wishes
Louis Loutan,
France

...and they keep coming

Thank you so much for the collaboration you extended to Sitata. Adam and I remain very grateful and wish you well in the future.
Ronald K. St. John,
Canada

My dad beat me to the punch!
Thank you for all of your kind support and best wishes for the future!
Cheers,
Adam St. John,
Canada

I had the pleasure and honour of working with Diane from 2011 during the Boston CISTM until my recent retirement in 2017 from the position of Director of Healthcare Development at Clasado and subsequently as Consultant to Clasado and Host Therabiotics in 2018.
Diane has always demonstrated professionalism and efficiency, often going out of her way to provide that extra service for her clients and partners. She will be missed by all.
I wish Diane success and happiness for the future and would like to thank her for her considerable support over the years.
Christopher Chrysanthou,
United Kingdom

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Dear Diane,
Shell shocked and flabbergasted by your resignation.
So sorry to see you leave.
Looking back at very pleasant contacts in the past and wishing you all the best for the future.
Take care and best wishes,
Erik van Vliet,
The Netherlands
Dear Diane,
I am so sorry to hear that you are leaving. I really appreciate all the support you gave when I was on the Responsible Travel Group Council.
Wishing you all the very best for the future,
Susanna Maybin,
United Kingdom

Frankly, ten years ago I was moderately enthusiastic when I learned that instead of a Secretary for ISTM we should get an Administrative Director. By previous experience in other organizations I was a bit apprehensive that such a person could become more powerful than the elected officers. And then I met Diane who with her Greek background immediately built a perfect bridge between the American and European membership, not to forget our colleagues in the Pacific area. The longer and the more we all learned to communicated with our partners in Asia and Africa — and Diane was just excellent in giving an “open arms image” on a global scale for our Society. She served not only the leaders, but many members praised her impeccable service. Personally, she spoiled me with her almost 24/7 service — replying almost immediately to my queries with precise information and great wisdom.
Thank you so much, dear Diane — and all my best wishes to you and your family.
Robert Steffen,
Switzerland

Diane has been the welcoming and always helpful face of ISTM for these many years. She greets folks at meetings with genuine warmth despite simultaneously managing a dozens of important details of the conference. She will be missed!
Ann Trauscht,
United States of America

I want to express my admiration and appreciation for the work that Ms. Nickolson has done for ISTM and for individual members. She was always helpful, effective and had superlative attention-to-detail. May Ms. Nickolson have a well-deserved fun and healthy retirement.
Jeff Altman,
United States of America

Dear Diane,
We are going to miss you a lot. You have put in a lot of hard work, dedication, and vision for the Society that has grown in a lot of different meaningful ways under your guidance. I wish you all the best for future.
With warm regards,
Prativa Pandey,
Nepal

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Robert Steffen,
Switzerland

Diane has been kind, professional, and very helpful in my dealings with her. I have very much enjoyed working with her over the years and I am saddened by the thought that she will leave us. But whatever she will do after this, I am certain that it will be stamped by her usual generosity and professionalism in her dealings and I wish her and her family all the very best in the days to come.
Buddha Basnyat,
Nepal

I call you my Fairy Godmother because the ISTM team performs miracles under your leadership.
You are devoted to the Society, to our membership, and making sure that every voice is heard.
Thanks for everything and you have a place in my heart.
Yen Bui,
Canada

“Diane was just excellent in giving an “open arms image” on a global scale for our Society.”

Dearest Diane,
I will always remember your kindness and generosity while organizing CISTM14 in Quebec City.
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Ann Trauscht,
United States of America

Dear Diane,
Thank you for all your sweet, friendly and professional support to me over all these years. Of course also sending compliments for your excellent team!
Best Regards,
Peter de Beer,
The Netherlands

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Yen Bui,
Canada
Ten years is a long time in the world of travel medicine – and the decade of 2010-2020 has seen phenomenal growth and change in global travel - and in the International Society of Travel Medicine. The person who has helped to guide and shape extraordinary change during that time – through multiple Presidents, Executive Board members, Committee Chairs, Journal Editors, Regional Meetings, Courses, CTH® Examinations, International Conferences, and the creation of ISTM Foundation and ISTM Fellows Program is Executive Director, Diane Nickolson. She has been able to oversee staggering large growth in every dimension – membership, meetings, professional and special interest groups, satellite symposia, task forces, and impact on the global stage. No longer a mom and pop organization, ISTM has become a more mature and professional organization during her tenure as Executive Director.

Diane knows the members and has an incredible memory for people and events. Always good natured, she has been able to guide and implement without giving commands. Her position required that she understood the economics, politics, and legal details in working with other societies and organizations and with venues for major international conferences. Always pragmatic, down-to-earth and accessible she navigated countless details. We thank her for her service to our Society and for her friendship and guidance.

As Executive Director of a large, sprawling, vibrant, multidisciplinary, complicated international organization, Diane navigated major growth and expansion at a time of remarkable global change in travel and trade. The ISTM family also includes a Journal, a Foundation, and close connections with major players and leaders in the global arena as well as the GeoSentinel Surveillance Network.

Thank you, Diane, for a decade of dedicated service to ISTM – and for nurturing and guiding this organization through tricky times. You have always been available and responsive and a champion for ISTM. We celebrate your contributions to ISTM and wish you well in the future.

Mary Elizabeth Wilson,
United States of America

Diane had a vision and understanding that considered all professions equally and allowed them all to provide their own distinctive specialised inputs into the Society. This allowed the ISTM to flourish and advance the practice of travel medicine as a multi-disciplinary model.

The Pharmacist Professional Group PPG was one of the newer representative groups onto the ISTM and with Diane’s support has shown the fastest membership growth of all the allied professions. The current membership now exceeds 500 with members now integrated and working with other groups and committees. Diane’s keenness and enthusiasm in support of a new professional group of pharmacists is well recognised by the members of the PPG and the Council. We wish Diane well in her retirement.

Derek Evans, on behalf of the Pharmacist Professional Group, United Kingdom

It is indeed with immense sadness and gratitude to learn that Diane is leaving, for me personally and in regards to the ISTM.

It has been a pleasure and my privilege to have co-worked with Diane all these years. She is more a friend than a colleague to me. I wish her and her family all the very best.

Warm regards,
Sonny Lau,
Australia

I was a newcomer to the ISTM in 2004, knowing little about it or its operations. I remained on the periphery until 2011 when I was volunteered to take over the Chairmanship of the then Destinations Community Special Interest Group by Assunta Marcolongo. She referred to Diane over and over again as THE person, within the ISTM, who would answer all my questions, assuage my doubts about procedures and guide me along the maze of the ISTM.

Indeedy, a formidable person, but one who did exactly what Assunta said and yet more. She was a wonderful guide as we (SASTM) approached the Regional Conference of the ISTM that SASTM arranged in Port Elizabeth, South America in 2016. Her assistance, support, guidance and friendship was invaluable and made the path along which I had to travel a smooth, well paved one. Her knowledge that had been gained over years was my gain.

One would imagine that, once the Regional Conference was over, her involvement and help would cease. On the contrary, she continued to show interest in all that SASTM undertook, as well as the road to the development of Travel Medicine in Africa.

Yet I was just one of the many with whom she came into contact, but it did not seem that way to me. This is a true gift, and I pay tribute to Diane for all the expertise that she has shared with me and SASTM, and her friendship – which I greatly value.

Garth Brink,
South Africa

It was a privilege to have Diane as aconstant presence in the ISTM and to observe her from the periphery. She was always there, available, and willing to help at every step. Diane was a true leader and mentor, always willing to share her knowledge and expertise.

Thank you, Diane, for all your contributions to the ISTM and for your dedication and support.

Warm regards,
Sonny Lau,
Australia

With the passing of Diane Nickolson, the ISTM has lost a true leader and a visionary. Diane had a profound impact on the organization and the field of travel medicine. Her legacy will continue to inspire and guide us as we work towards the future of ISTM.

Derek Evans, on behalf of the Pharmacist Professional Group, United Kingdom

It is with great sadness that we announce the retirement of Diane Nickolson, our beloved Executive Director. Diane has been a cherished member of the ISTM family for a decade, during which time she has guided and supported the organization through significant growth and change.

Diane’s unwavering dedication to her role as Executive Director has been evident in her tireless efforts to expand ISTM’s reach and influence. She has worked tirelessly to ensure the organization’s continued growth, and her leadership has been instrumental in the development of our Journal, the creation of the ISTM Foundation, and the establishment of the ISTM Fellows Program.

Diane has been a pillar of support for our members, providing guidance and mentorship throughout her tenure. Her ability to navigate complex challenges with grace and resilience has been an inspiration to us all.

We wish Diane all the best in her well-deserved retirement and look forward to seeing her continue to be an active and engaged member of the ISTM community.

Warm regards to Diane and her family.

Derek Evans, on behalf of the Pharmacist Professional Group, United Kingdom
Diane joined ISTM at a critical time of growth for ISTM and helped shape it into the mature Society that it is now. She brought with her a wealth of experience that was needed critically at the time, and in her gentle but confidence-inspiring manner, reshaped the office at ISTM. She added staff that brought with them different and complementary experience, and created a supportive environment where the society grew steadily. I learned a lot from how Diane approached certain situations, and am grateful to her for her friendship and her dedication to ISTM.

We all grew to know Diane as extremely hard-working (she would answer your emails so quickly that you wondered if she ever slept!) but also nurturing. She always made sure you were fed and rested, and took the time to get to know something about you. I remember once being stranded in Atlanta due to a snow storm (I think there was an inch or two) and Diane made sure we had hotel reservations (I think she even used her own points to secure the reservation) and got there safely. Diane has served ISTM with dedication and expertise. I wish her the best of success along the path of her next adventures!

Elizabeth Barnett,
United States of America

It is with mixed feelings I write this tribute to Diane Nickolson. I fleetingly met Diane for the first time at CISTM12 in Boston, Massachusetts. This was one of the first of many similar meetings I would attend and participate in around the globe over the following years. As I relocated from country to country, little did I know, that meeting up with Diane and her team would become an almost annual event.

At a CISTM or APTHS meeting our paths would always cross. Diane the support and guidance you offered was invaluable and you inspired me to achieve so much and depart my comfort zone. I became more involved and learned so much. I was unaware of how involved and invested I would become with the society or how busy I would be.

Diane is one of a kind and her enthusiasm is contagious as well as her commitment to excellence evident. Her persistence, decisiveness and vision are unmistakable. This added to Diane’s ability to engage and inspire others to follow a particular proposal, is evidenced by the growth and success of ISTM. I firmly believe the people you encounter always teach you something and some will also bring out the best in you.

Thank you, Diane, for sharing your knowledge and experience, and the privilege of working with you and your team. I do hope our paths continue to intersect across the miles somewhere again. I wish you every success as you set forth on whatever plans or journey you may have for the future.

Best wishes,
Trish Smith,
Australia

Dear Diane,

On behalf of IAMAT, we would like to thank you for all the support you have provided us over the years. You are always ready to help and find a solution to any challenge with calmness and reassurance. It’s so nice to see how the ISTM has grown under your leadership. We will miss you and wish you all the best!

Kind regards,

Tullia Marcolongo,
Canada

“"You inspired me to achieve so much and depart my comfort zone.""
It has been a privilege to know and to work with Diane over her time at ISTM. She is personable, reliable and ultra-efficient. Diane makes everything look easy, but while she juggles many balls, she also focuses on members as individuals, nothing is too much trouble for her. Her organisational skills are second to none, especially in managing the many strands of the Society and keeping things running smoothly. She always acknowledges her “team” but it’s Diane who provides the leadership. She will be missed, and I wish her well in her future endeavours.

Bon voyage Diane! Thank you for your years of hard work and attention to detail which transformed ISTM spectacularly.

Paul Arguin, United States of America

Dear Diane,

On behalf of the exam committee I would like to thank you for the enormous help you have been to the committee and most specially to me as chair (no doubt the previous chair will say the same!). It was not just efficiency, but also a lot of friendliness, patience, and listening. You knew almost everything about previous procedures, contacts, decisions, planning issues... in another words you were my memory for many things!

And with this knowledge, you helped us to make decisions, find solutions and run a high quality exam (actually we organised 14 exams in the last 10 years with you, including the coming event in Auckland!).

We will miss you and we can only wish you all the best in your next adventures.

With gratitude,

Pierre Landry, Switzerland

Dear Diane,

Thank you for all that you have done for the ISTM over the past ten years as our Executive Director. Your commitment to and vision for the ISTM have guided and supported so many of us- staff, volunteers and members-to further develop and strengthen the ISTM into a premier international organization. I wish you all of the best as you pursue your next adventures.

With gratitude,

Rebecca Wolfe Acosta, United States of America

Diane, from the first day that I became involved with ISTM, you guided me through all the unfamiliar territories. No question was too much for you and you welcomed me into the ISTM family with open arms. Although we didn’t have that much time together, the time that we did have was not only productive, but also lots of fun. Thank you for this. I will really miss you. The conferences you have organised have been amazing.

From a SASTM perspective, you have always given us your unwavering support and it was wonderful to have you with us at the Regional Conference in Port Elizabeth and we would love to see you in South Africa again soon.

Wherever life is taking you now, we wish you every happiness.

With kind regards,

Lee Baker and all at SASTM – The South Africans!

South Africa

“No question was too much for you and you welcomed me into the ISTM family with open arms.”
Diane,

On behalf of the Nursing Professional Group, I would like to express our deep gratitude for your dedication to the growth and promotion of ISTM over the last 10 years.

On a personal note I would like to thank you for all the support you have shown me during my term as Chair. I was amazed at how quickly you answered your emails! You were always supportive of the Nursing Professional Group and I really appreciated all your advice in helping to find solutions or alternatives to issues which arose. I am sorry to see you leave ISTM and I know you will be missed, however you leave behind great accomplishments to be built on in the future.

We wish you all the success and happiness going forward!

Heather Connor, on behalf of the Nursing Professional Group NPG, Canada

For me, whenever I think of ISTM I automatically associate it with Diane and the immense work she has done for our community in these 10 years. Her whole person, her smile, and availability have always been a model example of how one should behave at work and in everyday life. I recognize the immense help I have always received from Diane, especially since joining the Executive Board.

Thank you my dear friend, and good luck!

Andrea Rossanese, Italy

On behalf of the GeoSentinel Leadership Team, I would like to acknowledge Diane’s hard work during the transition from David Freedman’s tenure as the Principal Investigator (PI) through a challenging period of strategic planning to GeoSentinel 2.0. She provided helpful guidance to GeoSentinel during this difficult transition period and helpful insight to me as I assumed the role of PI in mid 2014. Although much of the time was spent working on the project, we did have some fun times with the leadership team including a fine dinner at Ye Shanghai in Hong Kong. On behalf of the whole GeoSentinel Surveillance Network, I would like to wish Diane the best in her next endeavors.

Davidson H. Hamer, on behalf of GeoSentinel Leadership Team, United States of America

Dear Diane,

The military travel interest group is so grateful to you for your relentless and unconditional support in creating and developing our military-friendly community. We owe you a lot! All the best for the rest of your journey! Uniti pro militum valetudinem!

Merci!

Olivier Aoun, on behalf of the Military Travel Interest Group, France

“Dear Diane,

The Society won’t be quite the same without you and your wisdom, knowledge, leadership and remaining calm under pressure.

On a personal level I have so enjoyed knowing you and working with you. Thank you for making me feel so welcome, your support, the laughs we have shared, our pet updates and the virtual hugs to Zeus! I wish you all the very best of luck, happiness and success in whatever the future brings. Keep in touch!

Much love,

Claire Wong, New Zealand

“I am sorry to see you leave ISTM and I know you will be missed, however you leave behind great accomplishments to be built on in the future.”