**ILSI LATAM Annual Meeting**

**San José, Costa Rica.** On August 22, 23 and 24, 2018, ILSI Mesoamerica had the pleasure of receiving and sharing with representatives of the branches in Latin America: ILSI Argentina (remotely), ILSI Brazil, ILSI Mexico, ILSI North-Andean and ILSI South-Andean.

On the first day of the meeting, a representative of each branch presented a report of activities carried out from 2017 to 2018. This helped to visualize the work done by each branch and highlight projects that can potentially be carried out jointly.

Guests at the meeting, ILSI Research Foundation’s Executive Director and current ILSI Global Chair, Ms. Morven McClean and ILSI Global Operations Director, Mr. Stephane Vidry, shared the new structure and governance of ILSI Global and the management of ILSI’s reputation in LATAM and globally.

During the scientific session, highly relevant research projects were presented, such as ELANS, REDCIMOVI and Schools in Motion as well as the publication on the role of cereals and pseudo-cereals in Food Security.

On the last day, the branch staff worked on improving capacity in the topics of strategic planning, decision-making administration and project management. For more information about the agenda and photographs of the meeting, visit: [http://ilsi.org/mesoamerica-en/event/annual-meeting-ilsi-latam/](http://ilsi.org/mesoamerica-en/event/annual-meeting-ilsi-latam/)
II Meeting of the REDCIMOVI
"Symposium of Good Research Practices"

City of Guatemala, Guatemala. On August 29, 30 and 31, 2018, the second meeting of researchers from the Central American Universities participating in the Central American Network project of applied research in childhood and adolescence in human movement and health (REDCIMOVI) was held.

Each university, through its principal investigator, had the opportunity to present research data carried out between 2017 and 2018. Researchers visited 74 schools in Central America and worked with 5,291 children from the II cycle of general basic education.

The data reveal that 25% of children are obese and this situation occurs especially in countries such as Costa Rica, Panama and Guatemala. 35.2% of the children analyzed have a low level of physical activity, especially in El Salvador and Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Perhaps the most worrying finding is that 44.5% of children have low self-esteem, the countries with violence issues having the highest percentages.

Once the diagnostic stage was completed, the researchers committed to work on the construction of the intervention proposal, this is II stage of the project. The purpose will be to carry out interventions to try to counteract the data obtained. For more information about the agenda and photographs of the activity, visit: http://ilsi.org/mesoamerica-en/event/ii-redcimovi-meeting-symposium-of-good-research-practices/
San Jose, Costa Rica. On September 13, the Committee on Pharmaceutical Affairs and Medical Devices held its second conference of the year, on this occasion, the guests were the representatives of the companies that develop medical devices and the Ministry of Health of Costa Rica.

The conference called “Companies in the sector of medical devices: nanotechnology and certification”, was given by Professor José Vega and the conference on the Certification Process of LANOTEC in ISO17025 Standards was dictated by Professor Melissa Camacho, both CeNAT–LANOTEC collaborators.

In this occasion, the representatives of the Department of Product Regulation of the Ministry of Health, as well as seven companies of the devices sector, participated.

During the conference given to the representatives of the pharmaceutical companies on June 18, as in this one, they worked in groups where the objective was to determine the needs of companies and the government. The idea is to start drawing lines of work of the Committee of Pharmaceutical Issues and Medical Devices of ILSI Mesoamerica based on the feedback obtained.

For more information about the agenda and photographs of the activity, visit: http://ilsi.org/mesoamerica-en/event/conference-companies-in-the-medical-device-sector-nanotechnology-and-certification/