The accomplishments of Dr. Walburg Maric-Oehler spanned the globe, its cultures and medical traditions.

Her life was devoted to the development, education and integration of Medical Acupuncture and the development of Integrative Medicine worldwide. For 19 years, Dr. Maric-Oehler was President of DAEGfA (the German Medical Acupuncture Association), the largest Medical Acupuncture association in the world. She was the driving force behind the first official recognition of Acupuncture in Germany and the integration of Acupuncture within University Medical Schools throughout Germany and Europe.

As General Secretary of ICMART (International Council of Medical Acupuncture and Related Techniques), she was Medical Acupuncture’s international, and most revered, diplomat, bridging the gap between East and West as ambassador of CAM (Complimentary and Alternative Medicine) and Integrative Medicine. Her life’s work focused on transcultural, and interdisciplinary exchange cross associations and the integration of multiple CAM modalities with the medical traditions of China, Tibet, Korea and Japan. Professor Maric-Oehler was a prolific author, lecturer and visionary whose commitment to new forms of acupuncture, including Yamamoto's New Scalp Acupuncture, led to its international adoption.

For more than the last 10 years, she worked intensively on the official recognition of medical acupuncture in Brussels at the European level within the framework of the EU Public Health. She was a founding member, or held key positions, in EU CAM-Initiatives (e.g. ECPM; CAMDOC Alliance, EUROCAM) from the inception.

Dr. Maric-Oehler was the recipient of innumerable honors and awards in Germany, Europe and Asia. She was a talented lecturer and teacher who trained generations of medical students and doctors.

For decades, she continuously created, developed, encouraged and supported national and international alliances and multi-national cooperation. A world figure, she was, in short, the Grand Dame of ICMART and Medical Acupuncture.

ICMART loses with Walburg Maric-Oehler not only a woman who gave her heart and soul for the recognition of acupuncture but a dedicated ally and sincere friend.

Her passing is a great loss for ICMART, Medical Acupuncture and Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) worldwide. We are grateful and thank her for a lifetime of tireless work and dedication. We will honor her memory by continuing to move forward together in her spirit. Her life and contributions will not be forgotten.

ICMART board, January 2015