Global Chief Executive's May Website Message

DIA is a uniquely collaborative organization that brings together the brightest minds and the best ideas to help design, develop and deliver health care solutions to the patients who need them most, no matter where they live. We'll witness this spirit of collaboration grow especially powerful as DIA members, volunteers, and staff work together all around the world throughout the month of May in a variety of ways to advance our collective impact:

- Our *6th Annual Latin American Regulatory Conference: LARC 2014* is a great example of how DIA "thinks globally, acts locally": The scientific committee supporting this conference comprises industry and regulatory leadership from every nation in the region while our conference co-chairs respectively serve as Associate Director for International Programs at the US FDA and as Manager of the International Programs Division for Health Canada, and previously teamed to co-chair the 2012 presentation of this annual conference. We've learned many lessons about how regulatory convergence can promote public health since *LARC 2012*. Updates from these lessons plus a special report on the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) Regional Platform for Access to Health Technologies and Innovation (PRAIS) launched in 2012 – aimed at improving transparency and cooperation that promotes access, innovation, rational use and

governance of drugs, biological medicines and diagnostics across Pan-American countries – are important aspects of the knowledge we'll exchange at *LARC 2014*.

- Two years into implementation of the new European PV legislation, our *8th European Forum for Qualified Persons for Pharmacovigilance (QPPVs)* will bring together this uniquely qualified professional group for an advance preview of emerging guidelines and requirements; to refine the legislation's practical impact on QPPVs, regulatory agencies and marketing authorization holders; and to nurture the relationships between them.
- In Mumbai, one of drug development's most important emerging practices – risk-based monitoring – will be the subject of our new conference in a critical emerging market at *DIA's Risk-Based Monitoring Conference: Demystifying Risk-Based Monitoring*.
- We welcome regional and global expertise – from our media partners to representatives of leading industry and regulatory organizations to our exhibitors – to our *6th DIA China Annual Meeting* which features another unique hallmark of DIA's internationally respected educational and networking forums: The opportunity to ask explicit questions and request specific clarifications and insights from regional regulatory leadership through our interactive China Food & Drug Administration (CFDA) Town Hall Q&A forum.
- In much the same way, the scientific, regulatory and industry communities in China, Japan, Korea and Singapore will convene to advance their mutual interest in clinical trials that deliver value and quality to drug development processes, and to the patients waiting at the

end of those processes, at our *8th Annual Conference in Japan for Asian New Drug Development*.

- In addition, DIA is also serving as organizer for *ECRD 2014: The European Conference on Rare Diseases & Orphan Products*, and co-presenting the symposium *Biostatistics & FDA Regulation: The Convergence of Science & Law* with the Food & Drug Law Institute and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics.

In this busy month, let's also remember that after May comes June, and our landmark *DIA 2014 50th Annual Meeting: Celebrate the Past – Invent the Future*. I think you will agree, as we work together in these and other forums, that there is much left to invent and to celebrate. Thank you for joining our work, so that together we can raise the level of health and well-being for patients around the world.