



IFOMPT Release

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admin@ifompt.org
www.ifompt.org
www.facebook.com/ifompt

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Opportunities and Challenges

From the President - Ken Olson

This is a very exciting time for IFOMPT. We have added 4 new Registered Interest Groups (RIGs) over the past 11 months and have interest from at least 5 more countries' manual therapy organisations who are interested in joining, which includes countries from the under-represented IFOMPT regions of South America, Africa, and the Middle East. Over the past year, we have also formed 4 Advisory Groups to engage our members in the work of IFOMPT, which has generated even greater enthusiasm and commitment from our members and has provided the expertise and manpower to more vigorously pursue the IFOMPT strategic plan, especially in areas of research, finance, branding/communication, and RIG development.

The Advisory Group on Research has taken the lead in facilitating use of the IFOMPT network of international OMPT leaders to collaborate on various research projects including a recently published Neck Pain Guideline published in JOSPT (47(7) July 2017). There are several survey projects that will be forthcoming over the next 18 months including Thoracic Screening, Advanced Practice Physiotherapy, Red Flags, and attainment of the Research component of IFOMPT educational standards. We are asking IFOMPT RIGs and member Organisations (MOs) to plan for these within their organisations to assist in a good return rate with these important projects.

At the WCPT Congress in Cape Town, I led an interactive open forum session on the topic of barriers to becoming a MO of IFOMPT.



We had over 100 people from approximately 40 countries in attendance and a lively discussion generated several common

themes. There are political, educational, and financial resource barriers to becoming a MO of IFOMPT. The political barriers are primarily related to difficulty in meeting the WCPT requirement that the WCPT Member Organisation (Parent body) recognise the Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy (OMPT) organisation as the official representative to IFOMPT. The IFOMPT Executive Committee is working diligently in cooperation with Emma Stokes, WCPT President, and Tracy Bury, WCPT Director of Professional Policy, to assist organisations in resolving these issues when they are brought to our attention. The educational barriers are multi-fold including lack of a strong foundation in OMPT in some countries' entry-level PT education and a lack of qualified OMPT specialists to teach both entry-level and post-professional OMPT educational programmes. The financial/resource limitations are linked to socioeconomic factors. IFOMPT leadership will continue to search for opportunities and strategies to address these issues in cooperation with WCPT and our IFOMPT MOs.



I also recently attended the inaugural ceremony and First International Congress for the Asociación Peruana de Fisioterapia Manual Ortopédica (APFMO) in Lima, Peru. There is a tremendous amount of enthusiasm for the development of the OMPT specialty in Peru and other South American countries. Peru intends to apply to become an IFOMPT RIG in the very near future and two of the other presenters at the Congress were from Argentina, who now have started to form a similar organisation with the intent to bring together the OMPT specialists in their country to apply for IFOMPT membership. The mentorship for these developing organisations is now coordinated by the IFOMPT Workgroup on RIG Development to assure that consistently accurate information

is provided to these organisations as they work toward becoming a member of IFOMPT.

As you can see, IFOMPT is moving forward to accomplish our mission of being the Global Leader in OMPT Excellence. In Cape Town, the Advisory Group on Branding/ Communication led a workshop on prioritising the Benefits of IFOMPT that included 4 main items:

1. Advance OMPT Practice Worldwide
 2. International Educational Standards in OMPT
 3. Network with Global OMPT Leaders
 4. International Recognition of OMPT Specialists.
- The work of the Standards Committee has been recognised as a significant benefit to IFOMPT members, which includes international monitoring and review of new potential member organisation applications, which we expect 3 new potential MO applications in the next 12 months. These benefits are being realised by our MOs and RIGs, but there is a cost associated with moving forward with realisation of these benefits. The costs include the human resources and the supportive and travel costs of the volunteers who must meet on a regular basis via teleconference, e-mail, and in person to complete IFOMPT's work. In addition, there are increased demands of time and support required from the IFOMPT Executive Director, Ingrid du Toit, to support the workgroups and committees to carry on the work of IFOMPT.

IFOMPT was extremely fortunate to have a very financially successful conference hosted by our Canadian MO and supported by the USA MO in 2012 that generated enough revenue (over \$240,000) to allow IFOMPT to function without a subscription increase since 2011 for MOs and since 2005 for RIGs. In addition, we could use these funds to develop a new strategic plan in 2013 in addition to investing in a website revision and branding campaign with a new logo and tagline. The IFOMPT conference in Glasgow was successful in every way except it produced a more modest profit of \$26,000.

IFOMPT is at a point where it can no longer afford to out-spend its yearly revenue and must find a way to maintain a healthy reserve fund. The Executive Committee recently has taken measures to limit expenditures associated with travel costs and suspended the "Physiopedia Evidence Release" newsletter. The Advisory Group on Finance has recommended that we develop other sources of income and has recommended to put forward a subscription increase to adjust for the effects of inflation since 2011 and a vote will be taken on this proposal in December 2017.

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Latest IFOMPT Developments

“We often miss opportunity because it's dressed in overalls and looks like work”

— Thomas A. Edison

News from the Advisory Group on Branding

Laura Finucane

As the Executive liaison for the branding group, I have had the privilege to watch the activity of this group unfold and deliver on the many tasks they were charged with. Over the past six months the group has worked on 3 specific items;

- The benefits of IFOMPT
- The use of the logo
- Raising the profile of IFOMPT

The Benefits of IFOMPT

The advisory group has worked to identify the benefits of being a member of IFOMPT. The meetings held prior to WCPT in Cape Town provided the ideal opportunity to finalise the document with an interactive workshop led by the Chair of the Advisory Group, Marion Schreiner. Consequently, the final version has been developed. The intention is to produce the benefits in a number of mediums including an infographic and short video clip. The benefits of IFOMPT are multi-layered, and affect not only the MO's and RIGs but the individual members of each organisation and the patients who are treated by these individuals. The benefits will be, to some extent, different for each of these groups. The advisory group has concentrated on the benefits for the MOs to date, but the work will continue on this project developing benefits for the other areas as described above.

The use of the logo

Having agreed a new logo in 2015 the group has developed guidelines on its use, which includes how each individual can use it to promote IFOMPT and its use more globally. It is impossible to 'police' the use of the logo but we hope that if anyone feels it is being used inappropriately, this will be raised so that we can tackle the issue. A big thank you to Bärbel Börgel for her work on this.

Raising the profile of IFOMPT!

During WCPT the advisory group focused on raising the profile of IFOMPT and raising the profile they did! WCPT was a true testament of this with their initiative of videoing key people attending the conference. The videos were uploaded onto Facebook and Twitter. A total of 27 videos were uploaded with a hit rate ranging from 113-2,227! These videos are now available on the website.

During our meetings in Cape Town, it was decided that the Advisory Groups on Branding and Communication would join together as much of

the activity that the groups were working on has considerable overlap. The new group is beginning to take shape and continuing to deliver on its extended remit.

Thank you to all of you who have taken the time and effort to contribute to this work stream and more importantly, deliver what was asked of you in the capacity of the advisory group.

From the President

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In addition, the Executive Committee plans to form an Education Taskforce to work on the logistics of development of a 1 to 2-day symposium (IFOMPT Roadshow) that could be offered regionally across the world to generate revenue and provide a worthwhile OMPT educational experience. The Advisory Group on Finance has also been asked to assist in development of policies to consider IFOMPT endorsement of products and organisations as another potential source of revenue

As you can see, the growth and development of IFOMPT has created challenges, but we have a talented and dedicated group of leaders to address these challenges. We have opportunities for additional volunteers, and I encourage others to join in by contacting our Executive Director, Ingrid du Toit, if you wish to join a workgroup or taskforce. Please help us to continue to move IFOMPT forward as “The Global Leader in OMPT Excellence”.

New IFOMPT Treasurer

Congratulations to Dr Paolo Sanzo from Canada has been appointed as the new IFOMPT Executive Committee Member and Treasurer to replace Steve White as of 1 October 2017. Paolo is the MO Delegate from Canada and has been a member of the Advisory Group on Finance.



IFOMPT Special Meeting

All MO Delegates have been notified of the special meeting to have delegates vote on a subscriptions due increase with the formal vote to take place in early December 2017.

The following three motions will be voted on:

MOTION 1:

The annual MO subscription fee to be increased to \$2 500 (USD) beginning in 2018.

MOTION 2:

The annual RIG subscription fee be increased to \$450 (USD) beginning in 2018.

MOTION 3:

The annual MO and RIG subscription fee will be increased at a rate of 2.5% per annum in 2019 and 2020.

The subscription fee is the only annual income generation of IFOMPT and it was last increased in 2011 for MOs and 2005 for RIGs. Without this proposed increase, we are expecting IFOMPT to function the same as it did in 2011, with less financial resources available to perform those services each year due to the effects of inflation.

Historically the subscription fee covers 55-60% of the annual expenditure, resulting in reserve funds of up to \$35k being required per annum to cover the remaining expenditures necessary for IFOMPT to carry out its organisational activities. There has been no subs fee increase for MOs since 2011. The global inflation during this same period in total was 21.69% and when compared between years has had an increase average of 3.6% (Statista, 2017). The current proposed increase simply applies an adjustment for inflation to the annual subscription fees. Therefore, the currently proposed increase will allow a greater opportunity for IFOMPT Leadership and Staff to perform organisational activities.

This future adjustment is recommended to maintain IFOMPT's operational activities due to an adjustment of inflation. This can be reassessed at the 2020 IFOMPT General Meeting.