



# International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapists

## IFOMT NEWSLETTER June 2006

### President's Report

*Dear IFOMT Family,*

We are just into our 3rd year of our 4 year mandate as an Executive, and several projects are being explored and progressed. Personally, I have been involved with the development of an EC (Education Committee) Americas, as well as with commercial partnering with a company, which produces on-line patient education.

Regarding the EC Americas project, several meetings have been held between myself and the American and Canadian member organization executive (AAOMPT, the American MO and CAMT, the Canadian MO). We have a formal meeting between the two Executives scheduled for October in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA (associated with the annual AAOMPT congress), in person, and this meeting is a follow up to a teleconference which occurred a couple of months ago between the stakeholders. Discussions will occur which will strengthen ties between the two organizations, and further collaborative projects will occur in Vancouver in 2007 at the WCPT congress. Associated with the Charlotte conference will be dedicated meetings for the IFOMT Standards Committee, under the guidance of Dr. Alison Rushton, the SC chair. I will be attending these meetings, helping to keep the IFOMT Executive informed of SC activities.

With regard to the commercial partnering project, IFOMT has been in negotiations with a company to offer on-line education services to IFOMT MO individual therapists. Patient education modules are being designed to allow individual clinicians who are members of their IFOMT MO to allow their patients to link to a site which will help in their patients' education. This will be a "seamless" link so that individual patients who access the education site get the sense that the education modules are actually part of the individual clinician's website! Also, for those who do not have websites, a special template mechanism produced by this company to formulate a professional looking website will be made available at a very reasonable cost. Although there would a fee for the use of the educational modules and website design/template, the cost is competitive, and the product is extremely professional. Plus, through a profit sharing mechanism, both IFOMT, and individual Member Organizations would be able to gain modest revenues from the project, letting everyone--patients, clinicians, and our organizations-- benefit from the sale of this product. Further development is under way, and I will keep MO representatives informed of this project's progress.

IFOMT is partnering with CAMT and AAOMPT to offer a post-congress course associated with WCPT 2007. This is one of the projects which demonstrates the interest in international development which helps the entire OMT community.

Erik continues to be very busy in his planning for Rotterdam in 2008, and the Executive applauds his hard work and continued efforts.

Once again, I would like to thank Vicki Reid, our Executive Administrator, for her continued efforts and superlative communication and organizational skills. As always, if you would like to contact me, please e-mail me at [president@ifomt.org](mailto:president@ifomt.org). See you in Vancouver, if not sooner!

Michael Ritchie,  
President, IFOMT

## **FROM THE OFFICE:**

Vicki will be away on annual leave from 29<sup>th</sup> June until 10<sup>th</sup> July, so the office will only have minimal cover in that time.

## **WCPT Congress**

IFOMT is delighted to announce that Duncan Reid will run a post conference course in Vancouver, 2007, covering 'Comfort and Safety in Cervical Spine Manipulation'. Further details of the conference are available from [www.wcpt.org](http://www.wcpt.org)

## **MEMBER ORGANISATION REPORTS**

### **Australia: Delegate – Debra Shirley**

MPA is pleased to announce the development of two new resources for clinicians. The first is the 'APA Clinical Guidelines for Assessing Vertebrobasilar Insufficiency in the Management of Cervical Spine Disorders'. This document follows a review of The APA Clinical Guidelines for Pre-Manipulative Procedures for the Cervical Spine (2000), and supercedes the original document.

The review team consisted of Associate Professor Darren Rivett, Dr Debra Shirley, Professor Kathryn Refshauge and Dr Mary Magarey. The review of the guidelines involved a comprehensive review of the literature, a survey of titled members using a modification of the survey that was used for the previous review, and focus groups to more deeply explore the attitudes of members. The aim of these investigations was to make sure we had a good understanding of the current thoughts and beliefs of members and to highlight any areas where education is needed.

The guidelines are presented in a new format. A new feature of the guidelines is the inclusion of a flowchart intended as a quick and simple reference to make it easier for clinicians to know which tests are appropriate for a particular patient, and of the recommended action to take following any given outcome. In addition, the text has been simplified and the references are attached as an appendix. In acknowledgement of the understanding of the presentation of vertebral artery dissection, information relating to this condition is now included in the guidelines. Furthermore, a medical screening questionnaire is included as an appendix to reinforce that while screening for VBI is important prior to manipulation, there are other conditions equally as important to screen for in order to decrease the risk of complications from manipulation or end range rotation mobilisation techniques.

The 2006 revised guidelines are available to MPA members on the APA website. MPA intends to make the guidelines and the flowchart available for download from the IFOMT website later this year; or hard copies may be purchased directly from MPA - for an order form, please email [mpa@physiotherapy.asn.au](mailto:mpa@physiotherapy.asn.au)

The second new resource is the development of the *Atlas of Clinical Outcome Measures for Cervical Spine Disorders*. In essence, this Atlas is a synthesis of 45 outcome measures and clinical tests for the cervical spine. A summary table of each outcome measure is presented followed by the copy of the measure. Depending upon the individual copyright requirements, statements concerning copyright accompany individual measure. In the absence of such specific statements, there is the standard expectation from the developers and copyright holders of these measures that these measures should not be modified in any manner without explicit written permission from them. Additional measures not identified by the review, but of potential use are listed in an Appendix to the Atlas.

Full details of the results of the outcome measures identified are included in the separate document - Project Methodology and Results - on the accompanying CD-ROM. The Atlas is available for purchase through MPA.

In further news, plans are underway for the next MPA Biennial Conference, 4-6 October 2007, which will be held in the beautiful location of Cairns (North Queensland) as part of APA Conference Week. Put the dates in your diary now!

**Austria:** **Delegate – Andreas Gattermeier**

*New Masters Programme: "Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy" - Master of Science in Five Semesters*

With its new masters programme "Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy" the Centre for Quality Control in the Field of Health at Danube University Krems, in collaboration with the Physio Austria, is offering a state-of-the-art graduate education opportunity to physiotherapists with at least two years of professional experience in the sector of musculoskeletal physiotherapy and with sound knowledge in the area of manual therapy.

"Musculoskeletal physiotherapy" involves the diagnosis, therapy and comprehensive conservative management of functional limitations of the musculoskeletal system deriving from physical and psychosocial causes. The increasing number of patients with complaints of the musculoskeletal system, their enormous economic importance for the costs of the health system, and the aim of providing quality assured therapeutic services increasingly demands evidence-based decisions and actions.

Starting from solid prior expertise and complying with the standards of the "International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapists" (IFOMT), the new course of study teaches a high level of cross-concept competence applicable to the comprehensive conservative management of musculoskeletal complaints. This postgraduate training course is distinguished by a cross-concept syllabus oriented on international standards.

The course focuses on the development of physiotherapeutic expertise in the area of diagnosis, interpretation and treatment of functional limitations of the musculoskeletal system oriented on the "International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health". It teaches an analytical, structured and reflexive method of proceeding during the entire treatment process, including evaluation.

Postgraduate University Course "Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy". Master of Science - 5 semesters, parallel to employment. Andreas Gattermeier, PT, OMT, Scientific Board

[andreas@gattermeier.de](mailto:andreas@gattermeier.de)

[www.gattermeier.de](http://www.gattermeier.de)

Information and Registration, Contact Eva Steininger, Danube University Krems, Center for Quality Control in the Field of Health, Dr. Karl Dorrek Str. 30, A-3500 Krems

Tel.: +43 (0)2732 893 2643 [eva.steininger@donau-uni.ac.at](mailto:eva.steininger@donau-uni.ac.at)

[www.donau-uni.at](http://www.donau-uni.at)

Also, from this year the basic physiotherapy education in Austria starts at the technical college and terminates with a Bachelors degree.

**Belgium:** **Delegate - Axel Beernaert**

No report received.

**Canada:** **Delegate - Anita Gross**

An introductory teleconference was held between AAOMT, CAMT and Michael Ritchie with regards to establishing an inaugural EC Americas meeting at WCPT 2007. Plans are in place to run such a meeting and an educational event. Additionally, AAOMT and CAMT Executive have agreed to attend each others respective national conferences to further this process and enhance communication to this end. Our goal continues to be to improve education encounters / exchange between groups and enhance communication between North American Educators.

Our next national symposium "2006 Orthopaedic Symposium – Peak Performance: The Power of the Thoracic Spine" will be held Oct 13 to 15 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada [www.orthodiv.org](http://www.orthodiv.org). Keynote speakers include Diane Lee, Paul Hodges, Lorimer Moseley, Linda Joy Lee, and Laurie McLaughlin.

**Denmark:** **Delegate – Per Kjaer**

No report received.

**Finland:** **Delegate – Maarit Keskinen**

No report received.

**Germany: Delegate - Fiona Morrison**

Since the beginning of the year the chair of the DFAMT has been passed on to Alf Brokmeier. Alf is also Chair of the DFOMT, the youngest member of our umbrella association here in Germany.

As part of an agreement made at the ECE Meeting in Maastricht in 2003, Germany has had the IFOMT Constitution translated into German. This will soon be available on the IFOMT Website and completes the translation of other IFOMT documents into the German language by Austria and Switzerland.

**Greece (HMPA): Delegate – Kostas Sakellariou**

No report received.

**Hong Kong: Delegate - Agnes Chan**

Manipulative Therapy Specialty Group and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University provide continuing education in manipulative physiotherapy for practicing physiotherapists. They include short courses organised by MTSG and Master course by the University.

**Italy: Delegate - Guido Frosi**

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, the general meeting of the members has approved the new inlaw of the Italian Manual Therapy Group (GTM/AIFI). From now on the full member status needs the requisite of having a university master education completed. The majority of the members considered fundamental for the development of our specialization to have an homogeneous, multi-concept and evidence based education that, nowadays, could be guarantee only by an university education, at least in Italy. Furthermore, a full membership obtained through an institutional educational course could give to the Group greater strength in their policy activity.

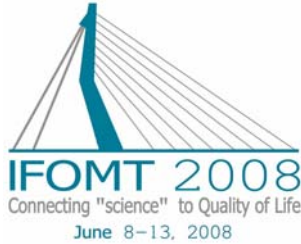
To avoid any discrimination toward colleagues the assembly also decided:

- During a transition phase physiotherapists that have reached by courses in manual therapy a sufficient practical skills level, could inscribe for a university bridge course that will start in the 2008. The admission criteria and the program will be decided within the current year by a commission composed by representatives of the universities leading a course in Manual Therapy and representatives of the manual therapy group. This course will give candidates the possibility “una tantum” (will be held only once) to have the requisite to become full member of Italian Manual Therapy Group.
- To establish the category of “founders members” reserved to the physiotherapists who has strongly supported the born and development of the Italian Manual Therapy Group, independently from their educational curriculum. The requisites to became a founder member is: “has been inscribed to the group for at least 5 also not consecutive years”.

Out of the full members status, the status of interested member is previewed by the new rules. That allows the development of an enlarged community of practice where a core group (the full members) will have the responsibility to listen to the proposal and answer to the request of scientific and cultural development coming from the enlarged group.

The new inlaw is a success for all Italian Physiotherapists, a sign of maturity of our Group and coherent with the new law recently approved by the Italian government (to be soon confirmed by the Parliament) establishing the professional order of physiotherapists. Particularly interesting for us is that the professional order institutes the condition of “specialised physiotherapist” as the one who has got a university Master.

**Netherlands: Delegate - Will Bonneveld**



### **IFOMT 2008 news from Erik Thoomes, Chairman congress committee IFOMT 2008**

Since the last newsletter in December, the congress committee of the IFOMT 2008 congress has not been idle. A lot of behind-the-scenes work is being done, but some of our work is visible on the outside too! We have booked rooms in hotels in a wide price range (from 1 star up to 5 star), all in the centre of Rotterdam. They will be available on the website [www.ifomt2008.nl](http://www.ifomt2008.nl) soon.

We have also been busy arranging some of the social events during the congress, like the gala dinner and excursions. We will keep it a secret for the time being but you can rest assured; we have some spectacular events lined up for you! We will announce the call for abstracts soon too.

**AND FOR THIS WE NEED THE HELP OF EVERYONE WHO READS THIS NEWSLETTER!**

We ask each and every one of you to forward the call for abstracts to as many colleagues as possible, so that we will be flooded with high-quality abstracts from all over the world and keep the reviewers busy for a long time. We have also started to look at some interesting pre- and post-conference courses.

So on behalf of the congress committee, I urge you to bookmark the website: [www.ifomt2008.nl](http://www.ifomt2008.nl) and join the mailing list, so you will be kept up to date.

### **Further news from the Netherlands:**

On March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006, The Dutch Association for Manual Therapy held its 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive two-day scientific congress. And since it is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NVMT this year, it was to be a very special one! The congress theme was: *FUTURE OF MANUAL THERAPY: WHERE IN LIE THE CHALLENGES?* The conclusion of the congress was that there is a beautiful future for manual therapy, with many challenges. Maybe we will evaluate to “neuro-musculo-skeletal therapy”, although a catchier name could be introduced. Nevertheless, the general feeling was that we should qualify ourselves further, in order to truly be able to deliver what we state we do.

In the December 2005 IFOMT newsletter we already wrote that our aim for 2006 is to enlarge the name recognition or brand awareness of the Manual Therapist. Together with an external PR marketing bureau we are in the process of realising this goal. One of the items for this program is a new style with a new logo. It can be seen on our new website [www.nvmt.nl](http://www.nvmt.nl) We would like the general public to view the manual therapist as an “annalist of your body” and the Public Relations firm has created a house style and logo accordingly.

Developments concerning manual therapy are happening fast in many countries and we, in The Netherlands, want to keep track not only of the other IFOMT MO's and RIG's. We feel, however, that we are out of touch with the other countries. So, with the help of a group of Dutch manual therapists who have connections in these other countries, we are in the process of establishing a network to keep us informed of interesting developments in these countries.

The NVMT has decided that, from 2015 on, all manual therapists will have to graduate with at least a professional Masters' title. The current group of previously graduated colleagues will have to be upgraded accordingly. Educational programmes are in the making and the first group of students has started with their upgrade.

**New Zealand: Delegate – Donna Hickmott**

The New Zealand Manipulative Physiotherapists Association (NZMPA) major activities over the last six months are as follows:

Planning is well under way for 2007 Scientific Congress and the conference committee are excited about the speakers and activities that have been lined up so far. It is to be held in Rotorua at the Park Heritage Hotel, on the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> August and the theme for this congress is '*Manual Therapy Down Under - Performance of the Lower Quadrant*'. Our keynote speakers are Professor Stuart McGill, Dr Peter O'Sullivan, and Annelies Pool-Goudzwaard. Our keynotes speakers will be running pre or post conference courses and there will be breakout sessions on the Saturday afternoon for practical work and discussion forums. Rotorua is only 3 hours from Auckland, and is in the heart of New Zealand's famous thermal area. It is also within driving distance of the Whakapapa and Turoa ski fields, so if you are looking for education and adventure 'Down Under', check out our website [www.nzmpa.org.nz](http://www.nzmpa.org.nz) and put these dates in your diary!

The NZMPA runs a series of weekend based courses targeting those physiotherapists who may be recently qualified, or those who have been in practice for a while who need to increase their diagnostic and management skills over a wide range of musculoskeletal conditions. The courses consist of an upper and lower quartile component and run approximately every 8-10 weeks.

Last year, New Zealand has passed the Health Practitioners Competency Assurance Act (HPCA), linking annual practicing certificates to continuing professional development. It is likely that cervical manipulation will become a specific scope of practice for the physiotherapy profession under the HPCA Act. It will then mean that those practitioners who want to use this form of treatment will need to demonstrate their ongoing competency. This will no doubt ensure that our NZ College of Physiotherapy accredited membership courses (CAMC) running in the three main cities will continue to be fully subscribed. It may also encourage some of our members to use these courses (plus assignments and an exam), as a pathway for joining the College.

This brings up the issue of tiered membership. Within our Association, we have 'Associate members' and 'Graduate members', which recognizes the difference between those who have a relevant postgraduate qualification and those who do not. There is a similar structure within the NZ College of Physiotherapy, and presently there is further discussion around Advanced Practitioner status as part of a career pathway in Physiotherapy.

With these issues in mind, in April this year the New Zealand Physiotherapy Society ran an Education Forum with representatives from the Special Interest Groups, Heads of Schools and private physiotherapy education groups. Most discussion took place around the coordination and planning of Continuing Professional Development within the profession and specialisation.

Two of our teachers were sponsored by NZMPA to attend the Biennial Australasian Manipulative Physiotherapists Teachers (BAMPT's) meeting in Perth in February. They found it an extremely informative weekend and will report back at our teachers meeting in Dunedin next month. This coincides with our Strategic Planning Meeting where we hope to clarify our goals and objectives for the next 5 years.

The International Monitoring process of our Association is well under way and the NZMPA is due to make their first submission to the Standards Committee in March 2009.

**Norway: Delegate - Heather Nicol**

The Manual Therapy Group of the Norwegian Association has had a turbulent year. The committee has been in conflict with the Norwegian Physiotherapy Association on several issues. They decided to recommend that the group withdraw from the mother organisation and establish their own organisation. They have done this and approximately 1/3 of the members have followed them. We continue with a new committee, including Jan Erik Endresen (previous President in IFOMT). We hope that the conflict will be solved in the future so the group can be united again.

**Portugal: Delegate - João Filipe Vasconcelos Abreu**

No report received.

**South Africa: Delegate - Lorraine Jacobs**

The Executive Committee recently held a think-tank and developed the following objectives for Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy in South Africa:

- Branding – differentiation of the skills that an OMT physiotherapist has
- Communication – external and internal marketing
- Education and Continuing Professional Development
- Research
- Tariffs
- Scope definition and development.

The current Executive has a busy two years ahead, but now has a focus to grow into the future.

The year-long post graduate course in Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy is being run in two provinces, with approximately 30 students. This course will be run again next year in two other provinces. There is always a high demand for this course, as it fills the gap between undergraduate training and clinical practice.

Our first clinical Masters students will graduate at the end of this year – this is very exciting as it is something that we have been striving towards.

**Spain: Delegate - José Miguel Tricàs Moreno**

OMT-España is preparing a new website to be included in the IFOMT website. We will include our pre and postgraduate formation, published articles and books, researching and the OMT members in Spain.

OMT-España is developing the OMT- University master at the University of Zaragoza, according to the IFOMT educational standards. Furthermore, University of Zaragoza and a state trade union have signed an agreement to develop the OMT University master in five important cities: Zaragoza, Madrid, Barcelona, Sevilla and León. So, 120 physiotherapists have started their master specialization in OMT with the university of Zaragoza in these five cities. They will follow the program at least during the next two years. This will help to promote orthopaedic manual therapy around Spain with physiotherapists who work in the health public system.

Our group has translated a book that will be published by Masson-Elsevier publisher into Spanish, about evidence based OMT exploration. This will help to promote evidence based practice for OMTs and physiotherapists in Spain and also South America.

OMT-España will discuss from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June about teaching and educational background in OMT in Zaragoza. The aim of this meeting is to get conclusions about education in OMT. We will report the conclusions of this meeting in the next IFOMT meeting. Also, OMT-España will have a key date with Spain-Portugal manual therapy congress that will be hold in Oporto (Portugal) with OMT-Portugal (Joao Vasconcelos).

The Government in Aragón has recognized our group at the University of Zaragoza as an official Researching Unit. The national representative MO, Professor José Miguel Tricàs Moreno has got the Doctor degree at University of Zaragoza last year and there are OMT members that are fulfilling the doctoral thesis. Prof. Orosia Lucha is researching the effect of therapeutic exercise in type II diabetes patients.

**Sweden: Delegate – Ragnar Faleij**

The Section for Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy within the Swedish Association of Registered Physiotherapists celebrated its 40 years birthday at the annual scientific conference in February 11. Harry von Piekartz Pt PhD was invited speaker to talk about his research on children. Together with speakers, like honorary member Freddy Kaltenborn, and other local speakers about 200 participants really enjoyed the 3-day conference. A really important and interesting subject was presented by Anders Ottoson, PT

and PhD, who wrote his dissertation in 2005 on the Swedish history of Physiotherapy which started as early as 1813. In 1842 the first book in English on Swedish Physiotherapy was written by a Swedish physiotherapist working in London. His name was John Govert in de Betou and the title of the book was "*Therapeutic manipulation or medicina mechanica*". A second edition came out 1846, "*A successful treatment of various disorders of the human body, by mechanical applications*". Since nobody knew what a Swedish "Physiotherapist = Sjukgymnast" was he called himself a "medical practicator in therapeutic manipulation" and it is still hard to understand that a Swedish Physiotherapist treated patients in London more than 150 years ago with manual therapy and exercise as the main tools. During the next 80 years Swedish Physiotherapy, read manual therapy and exercise, spread all over Europe and probably to some other countries outside Europe too.

In May the OMT-section invited Tom Petersen PT PhD, from Denmark, to talk about his research on "Non-specific Low Back Pain, classification and treatment". Tom earned his PhD at the University of Lund in Sweden in December 2003 and the system of classification is under continuous development. Mark Laslett, a well known physio from New Zealand, also earned his PhD last year from the University of Linköping in Sweden and added on valid test to the system of classification. You can download Tom's dissertation on the Danish web page <http://www.ffy.dk/sw1295.asp> if you're interested. As a follow up the section has invited Wim Dankerts PT PhD, from Belgium, to come in October and speak about his thesis work from Curtin University on classification for non-specific chronic low back pain patients and motor control impairment.

The Swedish Association of Registered Physiotherapists is changing and new sections are adding on this year. In June this year all sections are working even closer with the mother organization on convincing the Swedish government and local politicians that "Physiotherapy is a large part of the solution" to many major health problems in the Swedish society.

Of course the OMT-section has started the work to prepare for the coming International Monitoring in 2008. Right now we do have a "mix" of University courses and the OMT-sections private courses but the goal is to have a two-year program in OMT at a university level latest in 2008.

**Switzerland: Delegate - Renée De Ruijter**

No report received.

**United Kingdom: Delegate - Linda Crocker**

In the latter part of last year the M.A.C.P. commissioned a new web site which is proving very successful as a source of information for members and non members. The site also takes bookings and payment for courses which has proved a great administrative benefit. Do visit the site [www.macpweb.org](http://www.macpweb.org)

We have over the last 6 months been working on publishing a new membership directory. This has now been printed and circulated to all members.

Over the last year we have been looking at the possibility of opening up our Associate membership category to include those not working towards full MACP membership. An open process was implemented to seek the views and opinions of the membership culminating in a Postal Ballot. The result was that 73% of the returns voted against opening up the Associate category.

On 28<sup>th</sup> October 2006 we are holding a one day conference at Brunei Gallery, London, titled "Neurodynamics and neural integrity – the state of science". The keynote speaker is Michael Shacklock. Please see our web site for further information. We are planning to host an IFOMT ECE meeting on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2006 – details to follow.

**USA: Delegate – Chris Showalter**

The American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists (MO USA) is very active in the advocacy of Manual Therapy. This includes efforts at the State and National level to ensure reasonable reimbursement for, and public access to, our services. The Academy credentials numerous clinical Fellowship programs in Manual Therapy and has initiated programs to assist in increasing the teaching of manipulation at the undergraduate or entry-level.

The Academy's Vision and Mission Statements incorporate goals to ensure the continued growth and vitality of manual therapy in the US for many years to come. One of the goals is to develop and update professional and post-professional education and continuing education programming relevant to the practice of orthopedic manual therapy. The Academy is committed to continue to promote research in orthopedic manual physical therapy and foster the principles of evidence-based practice.

## **INVESTIGATING THE VIABILITY OF EC AMERICAS**

The Academy will be co-hosting a breakout session at our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Charlotte with IFOMT President, Mr. Michael Ritchie. The session is entitled "EC Americas: Building International Bridges in Manual Physical Therapy"

The subject of that session is the further development of an EC Americas within IFOMT.

A number of meetings have been held over the last 9 months between MO-USA and MO-Canada to investigate the viability of EC Americas. EC Americas would encompass North and South America and the Caribbean nations. An EC presents an opportunity for collaboration and development of education programs, fostering OMT awareness within the region, and assisting in the development and incubation of new OMT programs within the EC.

EC Americas would likely include: Member Organizations of IFOMT such as MO-USA and MO-Canada, Registered Interest Groups, and fledgling organizations who are interested in developing their OMT programs.

AAOMPT President Tim Flynn, IFOMT President Michael Ritchie, MO-USA IFOMT Delegate Chris Showalter and numerous members of the Canadian Association of Manual Therapists (CAMT) have had continued discussions recently on this matter. A number of Canadian members of MO-Canada have expressed an interest in attending MO-USA's October 2006 Conference in Charlotte, NC to further discussions. We invite all interested parties to attend the breakout session. Your input is vital to shape the future of OMT in the Americas.

## **IFOMT STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The IFOMT Standards Committee will have its first face-to-face meeting, as its members have decided to attend AAOMPT in Charlotte. The committee will also have some time to meet with the AAOMPT Executive. This is an excellent opportunity for the Academy, as the US Representative to IFOMT, to meet with members of IFOMT and to contribute to Manual Therapy on the international level.

## **MO-USA 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

MO USA will hold its 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference October 20-22, 2006 in Charlotte, NC at the Westin Charlotte. The conference title is "Manual Physical Therapy and the Lower Quarter Kinetic Chain" and the distinguished speakers are Shirley Sahrman, Jenny McConnell and Chris Powers. The program promises to be thought provoking and stimulating. For more information go to [www.aaompt.org](http://www.aaompt.org)

## **RIG REPORTS**

### **Hungary Delegate – Andrea Rigo**

Hungary is going to organize Maitland courses in Budapest between 2007-2009 by the support of John Langendoen and Kevin Banks instructors. IFOMT signed John Langendoen as a mentor of Hungary in manual therapy for the near future.

## **Ireland**                      **Delegate – Deirdre Hurley-Osing**

The Ireland CPMT group have been active this year in organising courses for members locally (cervical, thoracic and lumbar) and arranging international keynote speakers - i.e. Lorimer Moseley, 14th June 2006, 'Explain Pain'. We also have three funding schemes to support our members research - details below.

We are preparing an application to IFOMT for MO approval in view of the new MSc Neuromusculoskeletal Physiotherapy course at the School of Physiotherapy and Performance Science, University College Dublin. <http://www.ucd.ie/physioperformsci/postgraduate.htm>  
We are also actively involved in planning an event for the Bone and Joint Decade with other professional groups across Ireland, as well as being part of the subcommittee that organizes physiotherapy cover at the Dublin City Marathon in October each year.

### **CPMT Research Awards**

The following Research Awards are available to CPMT members in 2006.

| <b>Award</b>                            | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Purpose</b>   | <b>Closing Date</b>         |
|---|---------------|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>CPMT Research Project Award</b>      | Up to €2000   | To encourage members to undertake research in the field of orthopaedic manipulative therapy.   | 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2006 |
| <b>CPMT Research Presentation Award</b> | Up to €1000   | To fund the oral/poster presentation of research in the field of orthopaedic manipulative therapy at national/international conferences. | 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2006  |
| <b>CPMT Research Publication Award</b>  | Up to €500    | To support the publication of a completed research project in the field of orthopaedic manipulative therapy.                             | 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2006  |

For further details and application procedures contact CPMT Research Officer [deirdre.hurleyosing@ucd.ie](mailto:deirdre.hurleyosing@ucd.ie) or visit the CPMT website.

## **Japan**                      **Delegate – Mr. Isao Sunagawa**

Recent happenings of JFOMT: We have been organizing International Seminars since 1988, and now 8th term students are on this program. For giving proper evaluating and treatments, we improved our curriculum by adopting clinical reasoning. The present number of students who finished our program on June 2006 is 266 people, and 19 persons were given the Diploma of the program.

Eighty-two meetings authorized by the Japanese Physical Therapy Association for registered physical therapists will be held in 2006, and twenty-two are concerned with Manual Therapy. We can tell that a lot of Japanese physical therapists are interested in the manual therapy program. For meeting this expectation, we would like to make every effort to be admitted as a full member of IFOMT in the future.

### **UPCOMING CONFERENCES:**

**WCPT:** The next congress will be held in Vancouver from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> June 2007. [www.wcpt.org](http://www.wcpt.org)

**IFOMT:** Next Conference Rotterdam, the Netherlands June 8-15, 2008

Contact: Erik Thoomes [ejthoomes@wxs.nl](mailto:ejthoomes@wxs.nl) 'Connecting "Science" to Quality of Life'.

For more information and the call for papers we draw your attention to the website: [www.ifomt2008.nl](http://www.ifomt2008.nl)

Vicki Reid

***IFOMT Executive Administrator***