



Release

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ORTHOPAEDIC MANIPULATIVE THERAPISTS (IFOMPT)

This edition of IFOMPT Release is dedicated to Ian Searle who passed away at the Waikato Hospital on 3 November 2013.



Ian was the founding Secretary of IFOMT in 1974 and held this position until 1996 when he resigned at the Lillehammer Conference. At this Conference he was awarded the first Honorary Life Membership of the organisation.

Ian's contribution was unique. While he was a skilled practitioner and offered up a few special gems of his own, his principal contribution would be as Secretary of IFOMPT. He became Secretary at its second meeting in 1978 and remained in that position working from New Zealand for some sixteen years serving with such presidents as Stanley Paris, Bob Elvey and Robert Sydenham. He also worked closely with the Standards Committee which had many luminaries including Freddy Kaltenborn and Geoffrey Maitland. IFOMT was not a simple organisation to administer but Ian did it with a consistent attention to detail, to keeping the minutes and with diplomatic skill not afraid to do the right thing even on occasion when such was not popular. He was the anchor of IFOMPT for so many years assisting each new president to do their job.

(Condensed from obituaries from Barbara Hetherington, Brian Mulligan, Stanley Paris)

Message from the President – Annalie Basson

It is hard to believe that another year is almost at an end! We were all very busy preparing for the AAOMPT meeting in Cincinnati during the first half of the year. It was a very successful conference and I would like to thank the president of AAOMPT, Bob Rowe, the board of AAOMPT and organising committee for their hospitality. IFOMPT was very visible with Alison Rushton and Duncan Reid doing keynote presentations. The cervical screening document was also presented. Thank you to Alison and her team for developing this document and strengthening the physiotherapy profession. We are fortunate to have strong MO's and individuals that are prepared to give their time and knowledge to further OMT. We had our second Strategic Planning Meeting. It was a full programme and required concentration from all involved. We were very fortunate to have an experienced facilitator in Karyn Nishimura Sneath who guided us through the process. The group, through a multi-voting process, identified seven Strategic Priorities for IFOMPT. The Strategic Priorities are: Branding, Educational Standards, Communication, Research, Growth of RIGs and MOs, Leadership, and Finance. The Executive Committee will be having a meeting with Karyn Sneath to work through the priorities and the objectives that have been set. We aim to have the new Strategic Plan ready for feedback by the end of January 2014. Thank you to the MO delegates that attended and contributed to the future plan for the growth of IFOMPT. We are in the process of reviewing the Governance Manual. We are trying to make this a more comprehensive document. This should assist the new MO delegates to understand the processes and procedures of IFOMPT. Our new office manager, Ingrid du Toit, has done a tremendous amount of work to organise our documentation and to save historical documents electronically. She is also working on a document-sharing platform that will hold the important and working documents for the EC and SC. May you all have a bit of break over the festive season and return to 2014 with enthusiasm. I wish you all a blessed festive season and look forward to working with you in the New Year.



At this sad time I think it fitting to end with a quote by our great leader Nelson Mandela ***"A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of."***



IFOMPT EC and SC and MO delegates at the 2013 Planning Session in Cincinnati

Treasurer's Report – Erik Thoomes

Firstly, I am very sorry that due to personal circumstances, I was unable to meet you all at the AAOMPT conference.

However, the IFOMPT President (and former treasurer 2004-2008) Mrs Annalie Basson was present and more than able to answer any questions you might have had on the financial matters of IFOMPT.

As I mentioned in the June 2013 newsletter, the accountancy firm of IFOMPT have signed off on our last fiscal year (2012) and have established that we are a financially sound organisation.

Part of this is due to our being frugal over the last 4 years and another part of this is due to the unexpected huge profit from the IFOMPT 2012 conference in Quebec. The organising committee have recently finalised the accounting for the conference and we have received a total of no less than \$139 975.00. As the annual income from MOs and RIGs subscription fees is basically nearly enough to cover the day to day expenses for the Office, the conference profit now ensures that both the Executive Committee as well as the Standards Committee will be able to continue with their face-to-face meetings at international conferences every year for the next four years.

We have put the major part of the conference profits in a so called "terms deposit", maturing every 6 months, so we will receive at least some interest while still being able to access the funds in a relatively short time at the appropriate time or if we need to. I have revised the projected incomes and costs for the next three years in budget. As we continue through the years, we can slowly draw funds from the Terms Deposit to balance out the cash flow deficit due to international meetings.

While we will remain to be frugal and be careful to make the profits last, we do feel comfortable in agreeing to have a few new expenditure items:

- We have renewed our sponsorship of an IFOMPT page on the Physiopedia website. This sponsorship was a complimentary gesture following our partnership at last year's IFOMPT conference. We have downgraded to a Bronze Sponsorship of £500/year.
- We have also been able to make sure that our previous Office Manager (Vicki Reid) had her overtime reimbursed as well as her accumulated leave payment together with a small bonus.
- The office space we lease from the NZMPA has been filling up over recent years and we are now looking into digitalising important and historical documents while at the same time getting rid of unnecessary paperwork. To facilitate this process we are looking into renting storage space.
- We have funds to set up a professional document sharing system for the Standards Committee.

The Strategic Planning meeting at the AAOMPT conference in Cincinnati, together with the moderator we had contracted for this, had already been budgeted for and due to the generous sponsoring of AAOMPT has proven not to be too expensive. I personally want to thank AAOMPT again for their generous contributions and warm welcome.

I have also started very fruitful collaborations with publishers of several peer reviewed journals relevant to the scope of OMPT. The Executive Committee has had meetings and negotiations with the editors and corporate of Elsevier (Manual Therapy), Maney Publishing (JMMT) and JOSPT at AAOMPT. We will keep you updated on the progress of this.



Congratulations to Tim Flynn who won the Elsevier book for proposing the winning name for the IFOMPT Newsletter, namely IFOMPT Release.



Standards Committee Report -Alison Rushton

The Standards Committee (SC) met in Cincinnati to continue their work on key educational issues. The informal/formal meetings with MOs were invaluable in Cincinnati as was all of the social interaction – in particular the Salsa instruction!



SC meetings in Cincinnati October 2013

Two long days of meetings were invaluable to our committee activity. Activity focused on international monitoring and reviewing the questionnaire data re the review of the Standards Document.

International Monitoring (IM)

The SC continues to be busy with the processes of international monitoring. All countries have now submitted and are at different stages of the process. The new timelines of submissions every 6 years are now being implemented. Submission dates are being confirmed with MOs on an individual basis.

Review of the Standards Document 2008

The questionnaire data were discussed at length and we will be communicating with all MOs shortly re taking the review of the document to the next stage.

IFOMPT International Standard for examination of the cervical region

The publication is now in press in Manual Therapy.

IFOMPT website

We are working with Ingrid to develop the document resource area to the SC area of the website that we hope will be useful to MOs to assist the processes of international monitoring. The area will contain documents from the SC but also documents from MOs that they have devised to support their monitoring processes.

Resource of the Standards Committee

Please remember that the SC is here for advice and guidance on all educational issues and in particular to provide support to assist your development as an MO.

Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to meeting you all again soon!

Communication Update – Laura Finucane

Following the strategic meeting in Cincinnati we have taken steps to improve communication within the organisation and also the international community. We have started to tackle some of these issues:

Website

The feedback regarding the website was that it was not 'user friendly' and difficult to navigate. There was also discussion around the purpose of the website. Ingrid has been busy tidying up the front page and we would be grateful for your feedback. We will then tackle the content in more detail over the coming year as this will take some time and ask for your input re its purpose.

I will shortly ask you to update your profile using a standardised form

Newsletter

We have a name for the newsletter 'IFOMPT Release' and again the format and purpose is being developed to make it more relevant. We will ask a couple of MO's to contribute to it rather than every MO reporting every time.

Social Media

Twitter- We now have a twitter account IFOMPT@IFOMPT and since we created it we now have 90 followers.... It would be great if you could follow us and take part in contributing to the tweeting! There is now a link on the website homepage
Blogs-coming soon....

Get tweeting!!!!!!



Member Organisation Updates

Australia - Amy Fagan

Over the past six months Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Australia has been collaborating with its parent organisation Australian Physiotherapy Association to identify, create and implement methods that focus on the membership voice, value and knowledge platforms that the APA has developed.

Following on from 2012, the MPA finalised the revision of its post- graduate program review process. Since May five of the seven University-based programs have commenced the extensive review process and all should be finalised in the first quarter of 2014. An independent review of the University of Otago and Auckland University of Technology by NZMPA reconfirmed our established reciprocal recognition relationship for NZMPA titled members.

Providing professional development opportunities to membership is a fundamental component of the MPA. The multi-day courses Spinal I and II have been enhancing and up- skilling Australian physiotherapists for many year. To ensure that the course content remains relevant and up to date with the body of knowledge related to OMT teams of clinical experts and academics from across Australia have been recruited to collaborate in a review process.

Bring members together to learn, network, and socialise the 18th Biennial MPA conference was held in conjunction with the national APA conference week in Melbourne on the 17-20th of October. The conference provided delegates with new moves and innovation across physiotherapy, with clinical sessions focussed on cutting-edge research and developments. A highlight was the presentations of keynote speakers Chad Cook and Jonathan Hall who presented new ideas to challenge members' differential diagnostic processes. To add to the

celebration of the conference membership had the privilege to attend the graduation of the Australian College of Physiotherapy. This year's graduation elevated the number of Musculoskeletal Specialists to fifty two. To celebrate 60 years of continuous subscription-based print publication the Australian Physiotherapy Association has decided to make the Journal Physiotherapy available as a digital publication, and to open access to Editorials and the peer reviewed research content to all readers. So, from 1 January 2014 access to all this content (back to Vol 1 No 1 1954) will be available from ScienceDirect at no cost. IFOMPT is encouraged to share this information with membership.

Austria – Andreas Gattermeier

We were very happy to have the IFOMPT Vice President Duncan Read in September in Vienna, Austria. Duncan held one course in Vienna about cervical spine manipulations and a second lecture at the University of Applied Science Vienna about current concepts in stretching and knee rehabilitation. Both were a big success.

Canada - Anita Gross

Standards Committee

International Monitoring of Canada has been completed and University of Western Ontario's program is on a 6-yearly cycle while the Orthopaedic Division is on a 3-yearly review cycle. The 3rd cycle will be due March 31 2014. There are three Canadian based new programs (2 new university programs) that have announced their interest to CAMPT in becoming IFOMPT certified programs. We have now designed a process in CAMPT for receiving such requests which was reviewed by the Standards Committee for transparency and accuracy. We are happy to share this document with other MOs.

Evidence services to our members

We have decided to use the Physiopedia Newsletter as an evidence-base update. A survey regarding this service was sent out to members via Survey Monkey and our members were happy with the related updates.

CAMPT Member - Manipulation Refresher Courses

The CAMPT vision is to create regular manipulation refresher courses on a biannual to quarterly basis which promotes the continuing practice excellence in manipulation skills. We held two such courses concurrently in Ontario and British Columbia this year.

CPA Clinical Speciality Program

This continues to be a hot topic with much debate in Canada. We currently have one national system run by CPA (<http://www.physiotherapy.ca/CPA-Clinical-Specialty-Program>).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



from the Cunucks Eh!

Denmark – Jeppe Thue Andersen

2013 has been a year for the Danish Musculoskeletal Physiotherapist Association (DMPA). In an ongoing process our group has been working on implementing the 2008 IFOMPT standards. This year IFOMPT acknowledged the work and Denmark has now completed the second phase of the monitoring. DMPA would hereby like to thank our external assessor Roger Kerry and member of IFOMPT SC Allison Rushton for help, assistance and guiding in the process.

Even though the process at times has been demanding, there is a general feeling in DMPA that it has been worth the effort and has helped to improve the standards of our program.

In 2013, DMPA has also been involved in a re-organisation process of the subgroups under our parent body. This is an ongoing process, which will continue to keep us busy in 2013....

The Danish Society of Physiotherapy was formed May 22 2013 as an umbrella society for all physiotherapy societies in Denmark. The Danish Society of Physiotherapy works for promoting specialised and best evidence based practice in all areas of physiotherapy in collaboration with all respective societies.

The Danish Society of Physiotherapy is an organisational part of The Association of Danish Physiotherapists.

In Denmark we have 18 sections/groups representing specific areas within Physiotherapy. As part of the initial organisational changes, these sections were converted into 18 societies. Some societies are titled "specialty area" societies, representing specialties within physiotherapy. The rest of the societies represent areas within physiotherapy that do not fully cover a specialty area, or represent areas, that can relate to several specialty areas or represent a more narrow method / approach.

Main definitions used to define specialty societies and other societies at present time;

- Specialist society: A physiotherapy specialist area society is defined as a specific physical therapy professional area. It is related to a well-defined area of disease, health or area of competency and relate to the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, health promotion and prevention within that area.

- Other societies: A physiotherapy subject / interest area is defined as an area of knowledge and competency, which relates to specialty areas as branch specialties or cut across specialties or communities of interest by itself.

In many countries "other societies" (not carrying specialty titling) might be referred to as "interest groups" that do not cover a full specialty area. In Denmark there was no interest for those groups to be named "interest groups"; thus all societies were named societies. Therefore the main difference lies in the definition "specialty society" vs. "society".

DMPA was initially titled a specialty society, covering Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (synonymous to Manual/Manipulative Physical Therapy). The process was long, and there were suggestions from other societies in other setups. E.g. the MDT section at one time wanted an umbrella constellation putting DMPA and MDT-Denmark under the same hat, having similar titles.

DMPA focused on existing specialisation areas and curricula, and referred to IFOMPT setting the international standards for musculoskeletal physiotherapy. And promoting, that single concepts within musculoskeletal physiotherapy would not represent a full curriculum. This point of view seems generally accepted among many societies. E.g. there would be less reason in having several specialty societies within musculoskeletal physiotherapy such as Maitland, Nordic OMT, MDT, Mulligan etc. This is a similar argumentation that could be used within other specialty areas such as Neuro Physiotherapy, with less reason for having many specialty areas such as Bobath, Affolter etc.

This is the first line-up in Denmark. The organisational issues will be discussed in a continuing process and relate to issues on specialisation and definitions of specialty areas in general. Thus there will still be challenges regarding constellations regarding specialty societies and other societies - as the whole specialty area structure in Denmark will be reviewed in 2014. An ongoing process within Danish Society of Physiotherapy in collaboration with all societies.

DMPA might very well get in contact with IFOMPT in the coming year for support on these issues.

Lastly, DMPA would like to wish all our international colleagues a very merry Christmas and a happy and new year.

Greece – Manolis Manolarakis

In Greece we are preparing for Christmas holidays. We have received the Standard Committee's remarks on our first report for the International Monitoring and working so that appropriate changes will be made in time.

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Creative 2014!

Germany – Ralf Schesser

Germany is still successfully running four community based programs. All of them are organised under the umbrella of DFAMT and passed the first round of international monitoring this year. Many thanks therefor to the Standards Committee for their help and support! New groups in Germany are applying at the moment to be part of our umbrella. Their OMT programs will be monitored nationally. Still ongoing is the process of marketing and strategies therefor are in discussion and preparation. We wish all of you Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Hong Kong – Nicola Mok

Hong Kong have appointed a new MO Representative and we would like to thank Arran Leung for all his hard work over the past few years. Welcome to Nicola Mok who will replace Arran.



Nicola is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She completed her Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Specialist and PhD training, both at the University of Queensland, Australia. Nicola's area of clinical and research expertise is in Low back pain. Apart from her academic activities in research and teaching, she continues to provide clinical consultations to people suffering musculoskeletal dysfunctions including the elite athletes with and/or without physical disabilities in Hong Kong.

Italy – Davide Albertoni

In Italy the interest on Manual Therapy of veterans and newly graduated physical therapists has grown in the last decade. This success was made possible by the constant efforts of the Special Interest Group (GIS) of the Italian Physiotherapists Association (AIFI): the Italian Group of Manual Therapy (GTM). GTM is the unique organisation that represents International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapist (IFOMPT) in Italy, since in 1997. GTM is the unique political, training and informative benchmark for student and professional physiotherapist having interest in the Manual Therapy field. It safeguards the credentials and ensures the international standard training. The GTM was particularly keen in ensuring this aims during the 2013. The main commitment is the achievement of the documentation for the IFOMPT International Monitoring process in order to guarantee the training standard that allow Italy to be an IFOMPT "Full Member" since 2004. This process will certify the only 2 post graduate Manual Therapy programme at Genova and Padova University. Only these 2 training programmes are recognised by IFOMPT and enabling the Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapist (OMT) title. Moreover, during 2013 the GTM support and disseminate the Manual Therapy in Italy. In this regard, the Manual Therapy Group organised 4 high level courses:

- "PATELLOFEMORAL PAIN. A critical review of evaluation and treatment techniques". Lecturer: Christopher Powers PT, PhD University of Southern California.
- "MUSCLE INJURY: EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT". Lecturer: Philip Glasgow Pt, PhD Sports Institute Northrn Ireland.
- "Physical Therapy Management of Hip Dysfunctions – Labral Impairments, Hip OA and beyond". Lecturer: Cameron Mac Donald, PT, DPT, AAOPT, Regis University (USA).
- "SHOULDER REHABILITATION: WHAT'S NEW FROM A BIOMECHANICAL AND CLINICAL POINT OF VIEW". Lecturer: Ann Cools, PT, PhD, University of Ghent (Belgium).

Moreover, the GTM contributed to the Regional Scientific Conference (Veneto) organised by the Italian Physiotherapists Association (AIFI) in which renowned Italian Manual Therapists such as Carla Vanti, Davide Albertoni, Erica Monaldi, Alex Rossi, Andrea Zimoli e Silvia Gianola presented papers. The GTM, as every year, will organisa a National Manual Therapy Conference. This year it will be the 11th edition and the topic will be "THE ROLE OF MANIPULATION IN TREATMENT OF THE NEUROMUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS". It will host internationally eminent guests as Joshua Cleland (USA), James Dunning (USA) and Italian Manual Therapists renowned on the national scene.

New Zealand – Steve White

The NZMPA has had a busy second half of the year with the normal Musculoskeletal Continuing Education Programme (MCEP) Courses taking place in Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin, while Cervical Spine Update courses were also held in Wellington and Whangarei. The NZMPA ran two Mulligan concept courses in Palmerston North in 2013 and these will be repeated in Wellington in 2014. The Biennial Scientific Conference took place in Rotorua in August and was well attended. The theme of the Conference was: Piecing together the Puzzle... Screening, Diagnosis and Categorisation in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy. International speakers included Prof Bill Boissonnault, Prof Peter O'Sullivan and Dr Charles Aprill and all three also presented Conference-related courses. A very informative panel discussion on the future of musculoskeletal physiotherapy identified the challenges facing the profession. The NZMPA will be presenting its first webinar on 16 December 2013. Dr Duncan Reid will present this webinar entitled: Negotiating the transition into the physiotherapy workforce – New graduate and practice owner perspectives. This will be followed by a programme of four webinars in 2014.

Norway – Heater Nicol

We wish you all a peaceful and happy festive season from the home of Father Christmas and his reindeers (we share with Sweden and Finland)!

The new President of the Norwegian Physiotherapy Association is Fred Hatlebrekke. He is the most recent leader of the manual therapy group I belong to here in Norway, Faggruppen for Manuellterapi. He is a skilled and experienced leader who has had a considerable amount of experience representing us both politically and within our professional area. He has had ongoing contact with the relevant governmental offices at local and national level for many years. He has a great track record being a part of many positive developments for manual therapists in Norway.

The Norwegian Physiotherapy Association is fortunate that he is willing and very able to take on this new role. Congratulations and thank you from us in IFOMPT – Norge.

There is a multi-professional Neck and Back Congress in Bergen, Norway from 2-4 April 2014, which we are co-organisers for. This has a great program with many international speakers, as well as Norwegian speakers. This could be of interest for Scandinavian manual therapists. Information is found at www.nakkeogrygg.com

The ongoing split in the Manual therapy world in Norway continues. The group who split away from the Norwegian Physiotherapy Association has continued their lobby towards the Health Department, with the assistance of the largest trade union in Norway, for a separate authorisation for Manual therapists in Norway. After our national elections in September, the defeated Socialistic coalition left office, and during their last week in office they sent out a proposal for authorisation for manual therapists on a hearing to many organisations. This is a paradox as the 2 reports from the professionals working in the Department have concluded that they see no reason for a separate authorisation for Manual

therapists. The main argument/claim for authorisation is that it would enhance patient safety. This is rather alarming because they therefore indicate that safety is not good enough at present. There is no documentation for this claim so we await the outcome. Finally, I will be stepping down from my role as leader of IFOMPT – Norge before the next newsletter. I have found it to be a very rewarding experience, meeting many enthusiastic and learned colleagues from so many countries during my time as MO for Norway. You are a great group of people who make a difference in our world. Hope to see many of you in Glasgow in 2016....

South Africa – Marica Kok

According to the operational guidelines of the OMPT group of South Africa, the Executive Committee change every 4 years. 2013 was the first year in office for the new Executive Committee and I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their support during a year where everything was new and a bit overwhelming. We hosted 3 international presenters in 2013. They presented 11 courses at different venues all over the country. Our community based OMT course, which is not accredited by IFOMPT, was presented in 4 provinces during 2013. The course was also presented in Dubai, UAE. The course is standardised and the exams took place in October 2013. Over a 100 physiotherapists completed the 2013 course. We would like to thank the IFOMPT Executive Committee and office manager, Ingrid du Toit for their support during 2013. We would also like to thank AAOMPT for hosting us at IFOMPT meetings during their conference in October 2013, in Cincinnati. Finally, a special thank you, to my fellow MO's for sharing information and ideas at the MO Meeting and Strategic Planning Session that was held in Cincinnati.

Switzerland – Marion Schreiner

We are currently organising our symposium for 2015 and amongst other speakers we hope to have Roger Kerry as a key note speaker discussing the CAD issues. We have been discussing the strategic plan with particular emphasis on members training needs and with regards to courses members would like to access. Our strategic plan should be in place by 2014. Our members are very appreciative of the IFOMPT newsletter and the research review that Duncan Reid provides. Our main focus as an organisation is on pushing direct access for physiotherapy for specialist physiotherapists. We would like to wish members of IFOMPT a very happy yuletide and a happy Christmas and a wonderful 2014

The Netherlands – Annelies Pool

In November we had our annual general meeting of the NVMT with our members. The topic of debate was the guideline for manipulation of the cervical spine. Those MO delegates present at the IFOMPT meeting in Cincinnati remember that 3 accidents with the cervical artery within 8 months had occurred in the Netherlands by manipulation, which had led to interference by the inspector of health. He expected our organisation to come with a professional guideline, which would prevent future CAD. With a lot of discussion with the inspector of health and experts within this domain, also helped by a letter of the IFOMPT executive committee, the inspector let us free to formulate our own professional guideline. Our members voted for the use of the IFOMPT framework on cervical spine, with only one difference: that all patients should be informed properly about the risks and should sign an informed consent that they are fully aware of possible risks. We are grateful for the effort of the executive committee to help us convince the inspector that we are capable of forming our own guideline. Currently we are busy with setting up a trial to study efficacy and cost-effectiveness of an extended scope for manual therapists. We have the finances to start the study and are working on cooperation by the health insurance companies. We have invited our educational programmes to set up a teachers meeting next year in the Netherlands. I'll let you know as soon as possible which date to reserve... We wish you a lovely Christmas and all the best for 2014.

UK – Mindy Cairns

Having officially completed the UK rep handover in Cincinnati I now feel fully part of IFOMPT! It was great to meet many of the other reps at the Strategic Planning meeting held at the AAOMPT meeting in Cincinnati in October. I felt very much welcomed and it was a privilege to be amongst so many professionals passionate about OMT. After much hard work, the MACP submitted the third round of IFOMPT International Monitoring in March 2013. As an organisation, we are proud that the response from the IFOMPT Standards Committee was very positive. The Standards Committee made a number of commendations (examples of good practice) including the varied courses offered within the UK and the quality monitoring processes undertaken by our External Assessors. We were also equally thrilled to hear at the Strategic Planning meeting in Cincinnati that our response to the Standards Committee had been acceptable and therefore a successful monitoring process had been completed! The UK continues to be busy with excellent representation at Physiotherapy UK conference in October in addition to be actively involved in a number of consultations and updates of NICE guidelines. In addition, we are continuing to explore the options for alternative routes to membership particularly incorporating experiential learning. This work is important to us as an organisation and should align well with the potential for reciprocal recognition with other MOs. MACP communication continues to advance through the "Tweetersphere" with currently 1436 follows as I type. Why not make it 1437 and follow us at @PhysioMACP or log onto Facebook to check out what we are up to?

USA – Tim Flynn

The 2013 AAOMPT Annual Conference *Manual Physical Therapy: Balancing the 3 Pillars of EBP* was held from October 16-20, 2013 in Cincinnati, OH. The conference was a tremendous success with nearly 600 registrants. The conference was the site of the 2013 IFOMPT Strategic Planning meeting and we were able to host IFOMPT leaders from around the world. The conference provided Keynote Speakers, 6 pre-conference seminars, with 2 days of exciting breakout sessions (55 to choose from), panel discussions, distinguished lectures, research breakout sessions, poster sessions, business meetings, and a networking reception! In addition a number of prestigious awards were given including Michael Rogers, PT, OCS, FAAOMPT who received the John McMillan Mennell Service Award and Barbara Stevens, PT, DGMT, MBA, HonFAAOMPT who received the Kaltenborn "Teach I Must" Award. Research grants sponsored by OPTP were awarded to David Candy, PT, DPT, OCS, ATC, FAAOMPT & Chad Kurczak, PT, DPT and to Emmanuel Yung, PT, DPT & colleagues. Research grants sponsored by Cardon were awarded to Chad Cook, PT, PhD, MBA, OCS, FAAOMPT & colleagues and to Jason Beneciuk, PT, PhD & colleagues. The energy and excitement of the attendees was palpable and all are looking forward to then next conference from October 22-24, 2014 at the Grand Hyatt in San Antonio, TX. Current AAOMPT membership stands at 2165 members. The following AAOMPT officers were recently elected Treasurer- Chad Cook, Member-at-Large- Jim Rivard, Nominating Committee Member-Kathleen Geist. A number of years ago we started a Student Special Interest Group which was made up of students going through their initial PT professional training (DPT) we are finding that 25% of these individuals go on to be full members upon graduation. The Special Interest Group (SIG) AAOMPT - Academic & Clinical Faculty Special Interest Group (AAOMPT-ACF SIG) had its first business meeting at the 2013 AAOMPT conference. The Academic & Clinical Faculty SIG is committed to facilitating opportunities for both academic and clinical faculty development, mentoring, resources and involvement within AAOMPT.

Finally, to all the IFOMPT members, friends and family:

