

Second Annual Report of IPTOP

The INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of PHYSICAL THERAPISTS WORKING WITH OLDER PEOPLE

(Submitted to The World Confederation of Physical Therapists, Spring 2003)

I wish to present the second annual report of IPTOP. This year has been a challenging and successful year laying the foundations of this new Association.

In June 2003 our application for recognition by WCPT as an affiliated group was successfully presented at the General Meeting in Barcelona at the 16th Congress of WCPT.

During Congress in Barcelona the second general meeting of IPTOP took with 43 Physical Therapists being present representing 18 countries, 13 of which were members with 5 countries sending observers. Three members did not attend, nor submit proxy votes. At this meeting under an independent chairmanship (Prof. Dele Amosun, Africa), the first election of office bearers took place and the following were elected.

Chair	Olwen Finlay MBE, FCSP, HT, DMS. U.K.
Vice Chair	Annette Brown PhD, MSc, PG Dip (Geront). Australia
Treasurer	Nancy Prickett MA, MPT, NCS, GCS. USA
Secretary & Newsletter Editor	Amanda Squires PhD, MSc, FCSP. U.K
Executive Committee	Aine O'Riordan. Ireland
	Felix Can. Turkey
	Jill Mc Clintock. United Kingdom
	Tuula Ekholm. Finland

A Newsletter sub Committee was formed.

Editorial Board

Editor

Prof AJ Squires

Committee

Sigrun Johannsdottir (Iceland)

Dr Paul Ogbonna (USA)

Dr Martin Gennep (The Netherlands)

Professor Dele Amosun (Africa) was presented with a commemorative plaque when he vacated the chair.

At the meeting the Foundation members were formally recognised and this category of membership formally closed as defined by the IPTOP Constitution.

Foundation members

Australian National Gerontology Group, Australia.

Bulgarian Physiotherapists in Geriatrics, Bulgaria.

Servicis de Rehabilitacion Instituto Nacional de Geriatria, Chile.

Finnish Geriatric Association of Physiotherapy, Finland.

Arbeitskries Geriatrie im ZVK, Germany.

Icelandic Association of Physical Therapists working with Older People, Iceland,

Chartered Physiotherapists in Neurology and Gerontology, Ireland.

Active for Life, Malta.
Physiotherapy for the Older Adult, New Zealand.
Sweden,
Physiotherapy working with Older People, Turkey.
AGILE, United Kingdom.
Section on Geriatric, United States of America.

The following new members were formally welcomed into the Association.

Division of Gerontology, Canada
The Dutch Association for Physiotherapists (or Physical Therapists) in Geriatrics
Faggruppe for Geronto-Geriatrik Fysioterapi, Norway
Physiotherapists working with Older People, Sri Lanka,
Fach gruppe Physiotherapie in der Geriatric, Switzerland.

One member's fees are outstanding for last year.

The current membership of IPTOP is 18 countries representing a worldwide membership of almost 8000 therapists.

The general meeting discussed a wide range of topics and work on the following has been successfully completed

- **New black and white logo.** Iceland submitted various designs with the membership making the final choice. Further work has been carried out refining the original submission and the work has been well received by the membership.
- **The newsletters are** now distributed electronically wherever possible being sent to all members and members elect.
- **Information leaflets.** Early production of these was essential to ensure the conference committee arranging 2003 spring meeting had the appropriate information.
- **Policy manual.** The Chairman agreed to commence a policy manual for all members, although this is still in the early stages of development it will be used not only to collate IPTOP information but will also be used to distribute appropriate WCPT information.

Information currently included is

- ❖ Copies of the annual report
- ❖ List of foundation member
- ❖ List of current membership
- ❖ Constitution
- ❖ Contact names of nominated delegates of members
- ❖ IPTOP information leaflets
- ❖ About WCPT, WCPT publication
- ❖ Order form for all WCPT publications
- ❖ WCPT news.
- ❖ Keynotes 1-4 (Available from WCPT)
- ❖ WCPT keynotes

On going projects

- ✓ Development of a web site. The first estimates have been received, however it may be beneficial to develop a web in conjunction with other Special Interest Groups and linked though WCPT. This avenue will be perused and reports will be presented to the next general meeting of IPTOP.
- ✓ Planning the first joint conference held in conjunction with The Irish Neurology and Gerontology Group and AGILE (UK) This conference will involve speakers from four

continents and .50% of the membership has expressed a desire to attend. The President of Ireland has been most supportive of this Conference and has invited representation from the delegates. An invitation has been issued to WCPT by IPTOP

Following this first conference in Dublin a guidance leaflet should be drawn up giving guidelines for involvement at future conferences. Work has already been done on this project.

Finance

As at 31st December 2003, \$831.87 was on deposit and administered by the Section on Geriatric, American Physical Therapy Association. I would wish to acknowledge the help and support given to the Association by APTA.

A full financial statement will be reported at the meeting in Dublin and published in the IPTOP Newsletter. Newsletter and stationary are the main expenditure and other costs are mainly borne by the officers.

Funding still remains difficult; one of the concerns when participating in the organisation of the Dublin conference is IPTOP has no reserves should the project run into financial difficulties so it is essential that this meeting at least "breaks even". It is important that a "reserve fund" should be established to provide some financial security.

One of the objectives of IPTOP is to encourage the establishment of Associations in countries with no SIGs, so if possible some monies should be "ring fenced" to promote this aim.

Request from two WCPT regions re discuss possibility of a Special Interest course
WCPT European region requested collaboration re "Falls", hopefully on going discussion will take place

One country now has a new Special Interest Group established.

Report prepared by
Olwen Finlay MBE, FCSP, HT, DMS.