International Society of Physiotherapy Journal Editors (ISPJE) Meeting
Held at 15th International WCPT Congress, Vancouver, Canada
Monday 4 June 2007 14:00 – 16:00

Chairperson: Rob Herbert
Minutes: Mark Elkins
Present: See attached file.

Rob Herbert: Welcome and thanks to Canadian Physiotherapy Association for afternoon tea and Tracy Bury (WCPT) for incorporating the meeting in the congress programme.

Introduction of all present at the meeting.
Recording of names, journal names, and email addresses of those present.
Circulation of a draft constitution.

Rob Herbert: At the last WCPT, journal editors met informally and agreed that an ISPJE was likely to be a worthwhile initiative, meeting at WCPT and potentially more often. A small group of volunteers from that meeting (including Rob Herbert, Ann Moore, Guy Simoneau, Michele Harms, Pierre Trudelle and Gladys Cheing) drafted a constitution for discussion at this meeting. A constitution is necessary if we want to become a network of WCPT, although we could become a society independent of WCPT. The draft constitution is open to suggested amendments.

- Do annual reports, not second yearly. AGREED.

- Will we have administrative support? Rob Herbert: If we become a network of WCPT, we will get some administrative support. Otherwise, we could become a society and charge membership fees.

- Ann Moore: Should we have regional representatives instead of just one chair and secretary? [General discussion] Rob Herbert: Leave it informal for now. AGREED. Treasurer may also be worthwhile in the future. For now, it could be the secretary’s role. AGREED.

- Would “improving the standard of physiotherapy publications” mean setting standards? Rob Herbert: Mandatory standards are not currently in the constitution. If voted in, they could be added in the future. Tutorials are possible under the current constitution. Jeff Boyling: Standards will improve if we have “better collaboration” and “sharing”, as currently stated in the draft constitution. This could be done with a website. General discussion, including the following suggestions for a website: information on how to get an impact factor; list of editors and contact details; tables of contents for each edition of each journal; list of established journals willing to act as a “buddy” to developing journals. Ann Moore: Amend to “Facilitating improved quality of physiotherapy publications”. AGREED

- Haxby Abbott: Add “Raising the profile of physiotherapy publications worldwide”.
- **Louise Ada**: Do we need a definition of a “journal” for membership purposes? General discussion, including the following suggestions: peer-reviewed (which would exclude magazines/newsletters that are trying to become journals) OPPOSED; affiliation to a national physiotherapy association (which would exclude *Physiotherapy Theory & Practice* and *Physiotherapy Research International*) OPPOSED; **Murray Maitland**: Open membership will aid the developing countries/journals who need the most help. **Rob de Bie**: Leave membership open for now and see who participates. AGREED

- **Jeff Boyling**: The criterion described in the first paragraph of the *Membership* section of the draft constitution should be retained. However, there should be one vote per member, not one vote per journal. Therefore the second paragraph should be deleted. **Valerie Pomeray**: In that case we would need affiliated membership for magazines as non-core members. **Haxby Abbott**: If 4th yearly, one vote per journal will keep things fair and manageable. AGREED

- **Dagrun Lindvåg**: Secretariat should hold office until the end of a WCPT meeting. Abstentee votes will be possible in the week before the meeting and otherwise voting will occur at the ISJPE meeting. **Ann Moore** to incorporate this into the constitution. AGREED

- **Dagrun Lindvåg**: What is the status of hybrid journal-magazines? Are they in or should we restrict this to science? **Rob Herbert**: Show of hands: ~¾ science only, ~¼ hybrids in, very few votes for magazines to be in. Let’s leave it vague and see what develops. **John Medeiros**: Magazine editors have a meeting tomorrow. **Scott Hasson**: What about *Archives* and others that are not specific to physiotherapy? They are excluded in the draft constitution. **Rob Herbert**: Adopt this section of the constitution as is. AGREED

- **Anne Moore**: Election of office bearers could work like this: I will put out a call for nominations in June with two weeks to respond, followed by a two-week voting period. One vote per journal. **MM**: Let us know of any journals not represented today. **Guy Simoneau**: What else do you want for a nomination besides a name and the journal? **Haxby Abbott**: Also a short biography? **Anne Moore**: Name, 200-word biography, reason for standing. AGREED

- **Rob Herbert**: Do we wish to affiliate with WCPT or not? **Michele Harms**: The advantages and disadvantages of becoming a network of WCPT are being circulated. **Tracy Bury**: If you become a network you can have your own website, as well as your WCPT profile page. **Rob de Bie**: There are lots of advantages, but is affiliation of this kind of group legally and technically possible, given our responsibilities to our publishers? **Haxby Abbott**: The International Society of Medical Journal Editors (ISMJE) and the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) manage without conflict of interest. **Els van den Ende**: Will WCPT still support us if we are not a network? **Tracy Bury**: You’ll get a meeting room. **Rob Herbert**: Subject to further investigation and there being no technical/legal issues, we become a network of WCPT. AGREED
- **Sonny Akinbo**: Could you make assistance to developing nations’ publications one of the activities of the ISPJE? **Michele Harms**: By raising the profile *en masse* we should help developing countries’ publications, but can we do more? **General discussion**, including the suggestion of a buddy system; sharing publications; preparing and sharing documents describing, as examples, how to establish a review process, Medline listing, copyright, impact factors, and so on. Gain sponsorship from our publishers to run a workshop for developing journals. **Guy Simoneau**: If developing countries make their needs known, the group will try to help. AGREED

- **Gunneri Sundelin**: When establishing the contact list and communication processes, we need to decide between listserv and a unilateral email list.

- **Rob Herbert**: We have to close the meeting. Thanks to all.