

# Memo from the Executive Director

То	:	Member Organisations, Delegates, Executive and PCos
From	:	Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
Date	:	June 2017
Ref	:	Memo #11

# 1. WFOT Executive Management Team Meeting (EMTM), March 2017

The annual EMTM was held in Philadelphia, USA, in late March. This four day meeting focused on the business of WFOT, addressing ongoing priorities, projects and matters raised by Member Organisations.

Some of the outcomes for the EMT include:

- Strengthen the collaboration with WHO and other international stakeholders
- Formalise reciprocal arrangements with International NGO's including Handicap International and ISPO
- Preparation of the Strategic Plan 2019 2024
- Develop action plan for Rehabilitation 2030 to encompass all sectors for delivery
- Strategy to maximise impact of the Advocacy Toolkit for the International Labour Organization to recognise occupational therapy as a profession
- Progress the promotion and delivery of the requirements for the Congress 2018 in line with the critical path
- Extend the range of Position Statements and associated global surveys
- Progress the Assistive Technology Master Plan
- Revised strategic Mental Health Master Plan and collaboration with WHO
- Implement the MSEOT (Revised 2016), and action translations
- Undertake a comprehensive review of website functionality and datasets in preparation for the launch of a new website and management tools
- Extend the range of WFOT online networks and learning opportunities, together with the Occupational Therapy International Online Network (OTION)

An Actions list will be circulated as part of the Agenda for Council Meeting 2018.

#### 2. WHO/WFOT Collaboration

WFOT President Marilyn Pattison and Executive Director Ritchard Ledgerd attended the WHO high level meeting 'Rehabilitation 2030: A Call for Action' in Geneva in February 2017. During the meeting the following statement was submitted:

- <u>Statement in response to WHO Rehabilitation 2030 a Call for Action Plan</u>
- During the meeting it was identified that collaboration between health professionals and consumer/patient/client could be achieved through the development of a global

rehabilitation consortium with stakeholders from a range of backgrounds forming a collaborative model of engagement. It was agreed that:

- Global professional organisations would generate unified statements, using consistent terminology in support of interdisciplinary, evidence-informed rehabilitation practice.
- Such a consortium or collaboration would provide technical support as required to inform the development of policy.
- National organisations should be encouraged to work collaboratively especially where there are multiple organisations with common purposes.

WFOT is already an active participant in this consortium:

- Statements were also submitted to the WHO 140th session of the Executive Board (January 2017):
  - Statement in support of Promoting the Health of Migrants
  - o Draft global action plan on the public health response to dementia

WFOT's collaboration with WHO is one of the pivotal activities WFOT engages in. WHO is part of the **United Nations** and as a result WFOT has a direct collaboration via the UN as a member of the **DPI/NGO** international network through its **Global Compact** agreement. WHO provides WFOT with a direct overview and global interaction mechanisms pertaining to international policy and directives that are mandated to WHO Member States.

### 3. United Nations (UN)

As part of the requirements for ongoing relations with the UN, WFOT prepared an annual report that was submitted in January 2017. Many of the requirements of the report are focussed on the activities that the partner organisations are undertaking to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). WFOT will continue to track such activities and include the relevant SDGs in WFOT programme and project plans and provide the information directly to WHO.

Information on the SDGs are available at https://www.unglobalcompact.org/

WFOT also supports the United Nations by regularly publishing information about key International Days celebrated by the UN and WHO at <u>www.wfot.org</u> >News. Examples include World No Tobacco Day, 31 May 2017; World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, 21 May 2017; and World Day for Safety and Health at Work - 28 April 2017. A schedule of these days is available at <u>www.wfot.org</u> >Resource Centre, 'Key Dates for your Calendar'. Member Organisations are encouraged to support WFOT's collaboration with the UN and WHO by promoting these significant days.

# 4. International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)

WFOT has recently signed a formal partnership agreement with the ISPO to promote collaboration and cooperation between the two organisations to contribute to a better world for persons with disability. WFOT has previously had informal collaboration with ISPO on areas such as staffing for instructional courses and presentations at conferences. WFOT Executive Director Ritchard Ledgerd attended the ISPO Open Board Meeting and Conference in May, in South Africa, to progress areas of mutual interest. For information on ISPO, go to <a href="http://www.ispoint.org/">http://www.ispoint.org/</a>

# 5. Handicap International (HI)

WFOT has also entered into a formal partnership agreement with Handicap International (HI). This partnership aims to 'cooperate to contribute to a better world for people with disabilities, to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities, and to influence the development of occupational therapists within the global health professionals community

for a direct contribution to improve the quality of life and empowerment of people with disabilities and vulnerable populations through activity and assistive technologies.' For information on Handicap International, go to <u>http://www.handicap-international.org/</u>

# 6. <u>Cochrane Rehabilitation</u>

WFOT has been invited to join the Cochrane Rehabilitation Advisory Board. Cochrane Rehabilitation serves to drive evidence and methods developed by Cochrane to the world of Rehabilitation and to convey priorities, needs and specificities of Rehabilitation to Cochrane. WFOT is delighted to accept this invitation, and looks forward to enabling occupational therapy to be represented at this level and a fruitful collaboration. WFOT Interim PCo Research Dr Liliana Alvarez Jaramillo will be the lead person for WFOT involvement with Cochrane Rehabilitation.

# 7. International Labour Organization (ILO)

WFOT has completed the advocacy plan for lobbying the ILO regarding the description of occupational therapists in the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO). A tool kit has been circulated to Member Organisations for implementation in their countries. Thank you to Member Organisations who are actively supporting this lobbying campaign – we hope this leads to the reclassification of occupational therapists in the next edition of the ISCO.

# 8. Minimum Standards for the Education of Occupational Therapists (MSEOT) (Revised 2016)

The MSEOT (Revised 2016) came into operation in January 2017, and following engagement with WFOT Member Organisations and other key groups, a detailed plan for all aspects for the international implementation of the MSEOT (Revised 2016) was agreed at the recent WFOT Executive Management Team Meeting 2017, in Philadelphia USA.

Maintaining a comprehensive list of current and historic approved education programmes on the WFOT website is an integral part of the organisations business. As WFOT embeds the implementation of the MSEOT (Revised 2016) an upgraded website with automated functionality is being developed to support this process

WFOT is particularly grateful to the several Member Organisations who have already offered to support the translation of the MSEOT (Revised 2016) into their national language. This support will ensure that the WFOT educational standards can not only be implemented at national universities, but in addition can be provided to the governmental agencies in these countries to ensure that the education of occupational therapists can be of the highest standards, and have an international endorsement.

# 9. Disaster Management for Occupational Therapists (DMOT) online module

WFOT was pleased to announce the launch of the new online module – 'Disaster Management for Occupational Therapists', at the end of May. – Information was circulated to Member Organisations and Higher Education Institutions, and posted on the WFOT website and social media channels.

The launch was celebrated by offering a free copy of the textbook 'Disaster and Development: An Occupational Perspective' to the first 100 people who purchased the online module.

The launch of this online module is a significant achievement for WFOT, and I thank all who were involved in its development and testing. WFOT looks forward to developing further educational modules in the future.

# 10. WFOT Bulletin

Thank you to Member Organisations and Delegates who responded to the call for the nomination of occupational therapists to review manuscripts for the WFOT Bulletin (December 2016/January 2017). A significant response was received, and the nominations are being followed up.

The WFOT Bulletin volume 73 issue 1 (April 2017): "Working with children" is now available online via the WFOT website. This volume features a guest commentary in Spanish by Enrique Henny (Chile). It includes the report of the WFOT Human Resources Projects.

Four articles follow the theme of working with children and their families, and one relates to working with refugee adolescents. Articles on occupational therapy education complete the issue.

Please share the availability of the WFOT Bulletin with your networks. Individual Members that have registered their accounts online will be notified directly.

Calls for contributions to future editions of the Bulletin will be circulated soon.

# 11. WFOT Congress 2018, 21-25 May 2018

The deadline for submission of abstracts has passed and a total of **2457** abstracts from around the world was received. 11.6% of the abstracts received were from Africa – this is an exciting outcome when we consider that African occupational therapists equate to 1.24% of occupational therapists internationally (WFOT Human Resources Project 2016). Abstracts are currently being reviewed by an international team of over 200 occupational therapists.

The WFOT Grants programme was established for the Congress in 2006 in Australia, to assist attendance at WFOT Congresses and it has been used for every Congress since then.

The aims are to:

- raise funds to support the attendance of delegates in low / middle income countries
- ensure that successful applicants demonstrate a commitment to professional leadership through disseminating the learning on returning home; this may be in an association, academic, research or clinical context
- focus on providing access to as many in-country delegates as possible to attend the Congress, with the view to extend assistance to other low / middle income countries.

The WFOT Grants programme is open for Congress 2018 in South Africa, again to support African and other colleagues to attend this exciting event in Cape Town. This programme is based entirely on donations and is designed to respect the contribution the awardees can make and encourages occupational therapists to talk about their local practice settings as well as utilise the information gained on their return to their home country.

The options for donating are:

- 1. Congress registration process When you complete a registration form to attend the congress, there will be an option to contribute your preferred amount to the Grants Programme.
- Online contribution form A 'Grants Contribution' link will be set up on the Congress website to enter in your contribution details and preferred payment method. (Information coming soon).

3. Group Fund Raising project – Get together with your association, or with a group of your colleagues, to help raise funds towards hosting a delegate to attend the Congress. Payment can be made through the online contribution form - <u>http://www.wfotcongress.org/grants-programme.php</u> - or by contacting the WFOT Congress Office. If you participate in a Group Fund Raising Project, you may also have the opportunity to identify where your funds will be directed. Contribute at the WFOT Fundraising portal

Two Keynote Speakers have been announced - Dr Elelwani Ramugondo (Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town) and Dr Karen Whalley Hammell (Honorary Professor in the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada).

WFOT Executive Director Ritchard Ledgerd and Vice President Finance Samantha Shann visited Cape Town South Africa in late February/early March. A week of productive meetings addressed organisational arrangements for the WFOT Congress 2018, and the Executive Management Team and Council meetings scheduled for the week prior to Congress. Thank you to colleagues in South Africa for hosting this visit, and for working hard to provide an exciting and stimulating programme in Cape Town, May 2018.

Whilst in Cape Town attending the ISPO Conference, Ritchard Ledgerd also met with the Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa (OTASA) and local organisers of the WFOT Congress 2018.

WFOT encourages the promotion of Congress 2018 by all and has provided a range of resources on the Congress website for free download. Go to <u>http://www.wfotcongress.org/resources.php</u> Please feel free to use these in Member Organisation publications, websites, etc.

The Congress 2018 website at <u>http://www.wfotcongress.org/index.php</u> is regularly updated. News of Congress 2018 is also available via a dedicated Facebook page <u>http://www.facebook.com/WFOT18</u>

# 12. American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Centennial

Following the EMTM in Philadelphia, the EMT were delighted to join our USA colleagues at the AOTA 2017 Annual Conference & Expo and Centennial Celebration. This event was a resounding success, with over 14,000 delegates attending. The Executive participated in a range of meetings and conference sessions including:

- Meeting with Academic Leadership Council
- Meeting with Assembly of Student Delegates
- International Breakfast: World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) -Partnering for Success
- A Globally Connected Profession (Short course): WFOT and AOTA Consolidating Occupational Therapy Gains Internationally
- Conversations that Matter (session)

WFOT thanks AOTA for providing an Exhibition booth, at which WFOT promoted the WFOT Congress 2018, and provided information on the activities and resources provided by WFOT. It was exciting to meet so many delegates and share information and ideas. Congratulations to Selin Engec, USA, winner of a free WFOT World Congress 2018 registration (sponsored by Sugarman Medical).

WFOT congratulates AOTA on celebrating 100 years of significant achievements and developments for the profession in the USA and wishes continued success for the future.

# 12.1 United Kingdom

Congratulations to the College of Occupational Therapists (UK) which achieved Royal status in February and is now the 'Royal College of Occupational Therapists.' This is a significant event as it grants access to a broader range of forums at which RCOT can voice opinions and influence outcomes.

# 12.2 Vale:

WFOT was informed of the passing of three occupational therapists who had served the Federation:

Katy Austin, New Zealand passed away in early December 2016

Katy was the WFOT Delegate, New Zealand, 1983-1989 She was the Chairperson of the WFOT Congress Committee, 1984; and Chairperson of the

Legislation Committee, 1988.

### Sue de Gilio, New Zealand, passed away April 2017

Sue was WFOT delegate 1973-1981; attended the 1974 council meeting in Canada, 1976 in Paris, 1978 in Israel and 1980 in South Africa. Her roles in the WFOT included Chair of the Legislation Committee 1976-78, 2nd Vice President 1978-82 and 1st Vice President 1982-86.

# Freda Jacob, Australia, passed away May 2017.

Freda served on several WFOT committees over many years.

She was WFOT Assistant Secretary/Treasurer 1962 – 1970. In 1970 Freda was elected Chair of the Legislation Committee

Following twenty years of service to WFOT, Freda was awarded an Honorary Fellowship in recognition of her significant contribution to WFOT at the 15<sup>th</sup> WFOT Council Meeting in Amsterdam (Netherlands), in 1982

The WFOT acknowledges the contributions of these colleagues to the Federation and the profession, and sends condolences to family, friends, Occupational Therapy New Zealand / Whakaora Ngangahau Aotearoa (OTNZ-WNA) and Occupational Therapy Australia, and colleagues.

# 13. WFOT representation at international meetings and events:

Date	Meeting / Conference	Representative
6 – 7 February	Rehabilitation 2030: A Call for Action meeting WHO DAR, Geneva	Marilyn Pattison, President; Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive
		Director
7 February	Meeting with International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)	Marilyn Pattison, President, Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
7 February	International Society of Wheelchair Professionals (ISWP) High Level Meeting - Training on wheelchair provision and use in the curricula of rehabilitation professionals	Marilyn Pattison, President Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
8 February	Meeting with GATE Technical Officer regarding GATE summit	Marilyn Pattison, President Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
10 February	Meeting with Pete Skelton, Handicap International regarding disaster preparedness	Marilyn Pattison, President Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director

13 February	Meeting with German Association of Occupational Therapists e.V. (DVE)	Marilyn Pattison, President
24 February – 3 March	Meeting with Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa (OTASA) and Congress 2018 Committees, Cape Town, South Africa	Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance; Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
24 - 28 March	Executive Management Team Meeting (EMTM), Philadelphia, USA	Marilyn Pattison, President; Sue Baptiste, Vice President; Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance; Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director. Lyle Duque PCo Education; Sandra Bressler PCo Practice Development Liliana Alvarez Interim PCo Research; Athena Tsai PCo Standards and Quality
30 March - 2 April	The American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference Centennial Celebration	ЕМТМ
24 – 28 April	NATO International Conference On Physiotherapists And Occupational Therapists Education In Ukraine, Kiev, Ukraine	Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance
2 May	Advisory Board of Cochrane Rehabilitation via webex link	Liliana Alvarez, Interim PCo Research
4 – 11 May	International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) conference; OTASA meetings, Cape Town South Africa	Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
24 May	WHO Global Alliance for Rehabilitation, Geneva, Switzerland	Marilyn Pattison, President via Skype
5 June	Meeting with ANFE regarding Congress 2022 - travel funded by Creteil University	Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance
10 June	Meeting hosted by COTEC with APETO, Colegios and Associations, Madrid	Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance
16 – 17 June	Scientific Occupational Therapy Conference, Bacau, Romania. Attendance fully funded by the University of Bacau	Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance
19-20 June	The College of Occupational Therapists' Annual Conference & Exhibition, ICC Birmingham, United Kingdom	Samantha Shann, Vice President Finance
21-24 June	Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists Conference and meetings with AOTA, CAOT and RCOT, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada	Marilyn Pattison, President Ritchard Ledgerd, Executive Director
29-30 June	WHO Framework of Rehabilitation Services	Samantha Shann Vice President Finance

# 14. Correspondence:

Marilyn Pattison, President, and other members of the Executive, on behalf of the Executive Management Team and the WFOT sent the following formal correspondence:

То:	Subject
Thelma Burnett	20 December 2016 – Congratulatory letter
President	on their 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
Asia Pacific Occupational Therapists	
Regional Group	
Dr Gaudenz Silberschmidt	9 March – Letter of thanks re WHO/WFOT
Director	collaboration
Partnerships and Non-State Actors	
Office of the Director-General	
Geneva, Switzerland	
Association of Bulgarian Ergotherapists	23 March – letter of support
Cyprus Association of Occupational	23 March – letter of support
Therapists	
WFOT and International Society for	3 April – Memorandum of Understanding
Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)	
Amy J Lamb, OTD, BS, OT/L, FAOTA	4 April – letter of thanks
President	
American Occupational Therapy	
Association Inc	
Solangel Garcia Ramirez	13 April – letter of condolences - landslides
President	in Colombia
Colegio Colombiano de Terapia	
Ocupaciona	
WFOT and Ministry of Health of Ukraine	24 April – Memorandum of Collaboration
WFOT and Handicap International	18 May – Memorandum of Understanding
Federation (HI)	
Rajiv S. Hanspal, President	18 May – letter of thanks
Friedbert Kohler, President-Elect	
International Society for Prosthetics and	
Orthotics (ISPO)	
LTO. Adriana García Bautista	26 May – letters of acceptance to the
Presidente de la Asociación de	CLATO Congress
Profesionales en Terapia Ocupacional,	
A.C.	
Presidente del XII Congreso	
Latinoamericano de Terapia Ocupacional.	
Presidente del I Congreso Mexicano de	
Terapia Ocupacional	7 June Letter of support Occupational
Professional Association of Occupational	7 June – letter of support – Occupational
Therapists from Romania	Standards for OT 26 June – letter of thanks
Nicola MacNaughton President	
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists / Association Canadienne des	
Ergothérapeutes	

# 15. Emails

The following emails were circulated to Member Organisations, Delegates and Universities:

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# 16. On the WFOT website you will also find the following:

# News (Current):

- WHO launches video courses on outbreaks and emergencies
- 1st Newsletter of Cochrane Rehabilitation
- DPI/ NGO Relation Announcements 19 June 2017
- World Refugee Day, 20 June 2017
- European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD) June Newsletter
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, 15 June "Understand and End Financial Abuse of Older People: A Human Rights Issue."
- WHO Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health e-News: May 2017
- UN DESA Voice June 2017: Save our ocean, Disability rights, Public service innovation
- DPI/ NGO Relation Announcements 5 June 2017
- World Environment Day, 5 June 2017 'Connecting People to Nature'
- Alzheimer Europe Newsletter May 2017
- The African Network for Evidence-To-Action in Disability (AfriNEAD) Newsletter 18 -May 2017
- World No Tobacco Day, 31 May 2017 'Tobacco a threat to development'
- Press release: WFOT's Disaster Management for Occupational Therapists online course awarded for excellence in its field
- World Day for Safety and Health at Work 28 April 2017 'Optimize the collection and use of OSH data'
- World Malaria Day 25 April 2017 'End Malaria for Good'
- Colombian landslide in southwestern border province of Putumayo, Mocoa, 1 April 2017
- World Health Day, 7 April 2017: 'Depression'
- World Tuberculosis Day, 24 March 2017 'Unite to End TB: Leave no one behind'
- WFOT Congress 2018 Call for Abstracts

# News (Archived)

- World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, 21 May 2017
- UN Global Compact Bulletin May 2017
- European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD) May Newsletter
- International Day of Families, 15 May 2017
- Sue de Gilio, New Zealand, passed away April 2017
- World Malaria Day 25 April 2017 'End Malaria for Good'
- UN Enable Newsletter April 2017
- International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, 4 April 2017
- UN General Assembly celebrates World Down Syndrome Day, 21 March 2017
- Seating to Go Oceania Seating Symposium 2017 20-22 November 2017, Rotorua, New Zealand
- International Women's Day, 8 March 2017: Women in the Changing World of Work
- WHO Consultancy opportunity Technical support for evaluation project
- WHO Consultancies announcement
- World Cancer Day 4 February 2017 'We Can, I Can'
- WFOT submits statements to WHO 140th Session Executive Board Meeting, January 2017
- Katy Austin, New Zealand passed away in early December 2016

# Events

- National Occupational Therapy Conference, Singapore 3-4 November 2017
- 1st Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Symposium in Taiwan 20-27 October 2017 call for abstracts - early bird registration

# **Resource Centre:**

- Articles of Association
  Articles of Association updated March 2016
- Education
  - WFOT MonitoringFormNewEducationalProgrammesFeb2017

# General

- o Awards Thelma Cardwell
- o Awards WFOT Lectureship
- List of Honorary Fellows updated CM2016
- Merit Awards
- Past President of WFOT updated May 2017

# • Guidelines / Policy

- Guidelines and Procedures for Translations of WFOT Documents and Translators
- Position Statements
  - WFOT Code of Ethics revised CM2016

# Banner Advertisements:

- USC Summer of Occupational Therapy Immersion Program
- Queen Margaret University MSc Occupational Therapy (Post-Reg)

# About Us:

- President's Message
  - President's Message March 2017
  - President's Message March 2017 in German
  - o President's Message March 2017 in Spanish

# International Updates and News

- News from WFOT Member Organisations
  March 2017
- Newsletter
  - COTEC Newsletter March 2017
  - OTARG Newsletter March 2017

# Classified:

- Job Opportunities
  - Western University, Faculty of Health Sciences: Director, School of Occupational Therapy
  - Professor / Associate Professor in Occupational Therapy, School of Medical and Health Sciences
  - Technical support for evaluation project International Coordination Group (ICG) Mechanism Secretariat
  - Paediatric Occupational Therapist
  - South Asia Regional Clinician, Motivation
  - o Internship Rehabilitation WHO, Tajikistan

- Technical Officer WHO GATE Initiative
- Professor / Associate Professor in Occupational Therapy, School of Medical and Health Science

# Research

- The Examination of Attitudes and Willingness to Treat Incarcerated Populations Among OT Practitioners
- Exploring the promotion of meaning at the end-of-life from the perspective of occupational therapy.

## 17. Secretariat Activities

A major focus for the Secretariat has been the preparation for the implementation of the new website. A review of the content of the pages and update of information is in progress. The Executive Director has been working extensively with the website developers to ensure that the new website provides clear and easy to access information, and facilitates communication via social media which is increasingly key to engaging with wide audiences internationally.

Ritchard Ledgerd Executive Director WFOT

cc Executive Assistant cc WFOT Secretariat