



IFOMPT Release

This is an official IFOMPT publication
admin@ifompt.org
www.ifompt.org
www.facebook.com/ifompt
https://twitter.com/IFOMPT

Edition 8 - June 2019

Reflecting on Geneva and charting the course to Melbourne

From the President - Ken Olson

The WCPT Congress was held in Geneva, Switzerland from May 10-May 13, 2019 and IFOMPT had a large presence at the Congress this year thanks to the efforts of many of our committee members and delegates including Laura Finucane and Chris Mercer who conducted a pre-conference course on Red Flag screening that was co-sponsored by IFOMPT. In addition, many IFOMPT delegates and committee members provided poster and platform presentations, chaired sessions, and participated in focused symposiums. Laura Finucane and I also had the honour to represent IFOMPT at the WCPT General Meeting where IFOMPT was re-confirmed as an official subgroup of WCPT.



IFOMPT past-president, Annalie Basson was honoured at the WCPT awards ceremony with the International Service Award.



On top of all this, IFOMPT had a trade stand in the Exhibit Hall that was coordinated by Ingrid Du Toit, IFOMPT Executive Director and the Advisory Group on Marketing and Communication, which was a focus of activity throughout the Congress.



IFOMPT Executive Committee (EC) and Standards Committee (SC) participated in working meeting for 2 days prior to the Congress and were able to join the Delegates for a walking tour and boat ride to experience the sites of Geneva.



We also hosted a membership meeting that had over 60 attendees and the SC provided workshops for the delegates on international monitoring for the MOs and Curriculum development for the RIGs. The IFOMPT membership meeting and the IFOMPT Open Forum at the WCPT Congress allowed us to also honour the recent passing of one of the IFOMPT Founders, Freddy Kaltenborn, and we were fortunate to have another Founder, Stanley Paris, provide these tributes.



Some of the action items that have come out of these meetings for IFOMPT are to form a task force to revise the IFOMPT Constitution due in part to the need to update the Constitution and also to adapt to the recently revised WCPT Constitution. This task force will be chaired by Paolo Sanzo, IFOMPT Treasurer, and will include individuals with expertise in governance. The EC also completed a new Code of Conduct document to outline expectations for the EC and SC committee members.

Similar documents will likely be developed in the future for delegates and advisory group members.

Karen Beeton presented the results of the recent questionnaire of the RIGs conducted by the Task Force on Membership Qualifications. Robust discussions were generated from this presentation throughout the week on ways to enhance support for the RIGs to assist in their efforts to transition from RIGs to MOs. Future meetings will be established between the SC and the Advisory Group on RIG Development to further explore these suggestions and to develop plans to enhance the resources required to assist the RIGs. The chairpersons for these two groups have provided further details of their activities in this issue of the IFOMPT Release.

What has become evident from the work of these groups is that IFOMPT needs to develop more resources to assist RIGs to transition to MOs. Additionally, the RIGs need mentoring to develop their curriculum to put it into a format that can be assessed by the SC for application to become an MO. Both financial and human resources are needed to facilitate these processes. The IFOMPT EC has charged the Advisory Group on Finance to develop a Charitable Fund to raise money for the purpose of supporting RIGs in their development toward MO status. We are proposing to name the fund the Founders Membership Development Fund to honor the work of Freddy Kaltenborn and the rest of the Founders of IFOMPT who put so much of their time and talents into moving IFOMPT forward as an international organisation. We hope to have this fund established by the end of 2019 and will be soliciting donations to the fund at that time. Please consider what you and your organisations can do beyond your current contributions to assist IFOMPT in our efforts to promote the advancement of OMPT worldwide.

Kind Regards,
Ken Olson





Latest IFOMPT Developments

"It does not matter how slowly you go, so long as you do not stop"
Confucius

IFOMPT Membership Qualifications Task Force

The Task Force was set up by the IFOMPT EC in 2018 and held its first on-line meeting in September 2018.

Objectives of the Task Force

1. Critically analyse the current requirements for attainment of IFOMPT membership and make recommendations to the IFOMPT EC
2. Critically analyse the current requirements for maintenance of MO status and make recommendations to the IFOMPT EC.

The following summary provides an overview of the work of the Task Force to date which has focused on objective 1. Objective 2 will be considered over the next few months.

The Task Force needed to engage with the Registered Interest Groups (RIGs) in order to analyse the requirements to become an MO.



We wanted to gain an in-depth understanding of the challenges and barriers and to ascertain how far the RIGs had reached towards full MO status. It was therefore agreed to develop an on-line survey to explore this. The survey was subsequently approved by the EC and was circulated by email to the 18 RIGs. It consisted of 31 questions with a mixture of open and closed questions and was available for completion between January-April 2019.

Key highlights from the analysis of the survey included;

- 16/18 (89%) of the RIGs responded, of those 13 RIGs intend to progress to MO status and three do not as currently they are very small groups.
- The RIGs are at very different stages of progress towards MO status. Some are exploring how they can set up a manual therapy programme and others are close to submitting a curriculum.
- One RIG had recently submitted their curriculum to the Standards Committee (SC).

- 9/16 (56%) RIGs have a manual therapy programme with five of these RIGs having more than one programme. Two of the programmes take place in a university, four take place in the community and three take place in both university and community settings.
- 8 (50%) of the RIGs assess elements of their programme. Of these six RIGs have to bring physiotherapists from other countries to examine students as they do not have their own OMT members.
- RIGs were asked if they knew what the milestones were in order to submit an OMT programme to the SC. Of the 14 who responded, three said Yes and 11 said No.
- RIGs were also asked if they were receiving guidance from IFOMPT officers. Five RIGs indicated that they were receiving mentorship but 10 were not although 6 were receiving other help, possibly from other MOs although this was not specified.

These findings have been discussed at Task Force meetings and have been shared and discussed with the IFOMPT EC and SC. They were also presented at the IFOMPT membership meeting in Geneva. In addition to the survey, meetings have also taken place recently with two RIG representatives. A RIG workshop in Geneva facilitated by members of the SC also provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the processes and requirements of submitting a curriculum to the SC and enabled the RIG representatives present to raise many questions which highlighted the value of face to face discussions.

Further dialogue at a recent Task Force meeting has identified the recommendations, as listed on the right

In addition, discussions between the Task Force members, the EC and SC have considered:

- Whether there needs to be training for the IFOMPT representatives who are supporting RIGs
- The remit of the RIG Advisory Group and SC in supporting RIGs to MO status needs to be explored further including any overlap/potential gaps between the two committees.

Challenges Faced by RIGS

The RIGs were asked what challenges they faced in becoming an MO.

Responses included

- 1) Development of a curriculum to IFOMPT standards
- 2) Lack of resources
Insufficient OMT members in RIG
Insufficient suitably qualified mentors to support clinical practice
Payment of external assessors
Additional costs of the OMT programme because of the need to bring in expertise from abroad. This is a particular challenge in low income countries
- 3) Political issues
Lack of awareness/acknowledgement of IFOMPT by WCPT MO
Impact of supporting the RIG programme on other programmes in the country
RIG members do not want to join the WCPT MO as individual members
- 4) Language barriers in understanding requirements for MO status

Recommendations

- Develop more on-line resources to support curriculum development
- Consider a staged process to MO status with an opportunity for feedback on progress
- Continue to enhance the various support systems and communications with RIGs
- Continue to offer RIG specific workshops at future IFOMPT meetings although there is also benefit of joint meetings as well.
- Consider the possibility of IFOMPT setting up a directory of MO countries or programmes / individuals who would be willing to assist RIGs in the development of their programmes.
- Consider undertaking a scoping of the IFOMPT website to review the guidance that is currently available for RIGs and to identify any gaps.
- Consider developing a template that provides headings/guidance when submitting a curriculum for MO status.

This work and the discussion in Geneva has meant that the Advisory Group on RIG Development has a better idea of the challenges of the RIGs and will be working with them to reduce the barriers to achieving MO status and to grow IFOMPT.

And finally, a little collage of what we got up to in Geneva....



*Please don't forget to enter the competition to win free registration to the IFOMPT Conference in Melbourne - enter by posting your membership benefit videos at www.facebook.com/ifompt or <https://twitter.com/IFOMPT> using the **#ifomptdownunder***

This is a challenge to all MOs and RIGs to see which one's members will submit the most videos