



IFOMPT Release

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Knowledge Sharing

From the President - Ken Olson

One of the stated benefits of membership in IFOMPT is “**Knowledge Sharing** with opportunities to contribute to and benefit from clinical practice, education and the implementation of research for the advancement of OMPT practice worldwide.”

I am writing this President’s message on my flight home (February 12, 2018) from Cairo, Egypt, where I represented IFOMPT in the first OMPT Congress in the Middle East organised by OMTA-Egypt, who joined IFOMPT as a Registered Interest Group (RIG) approximately 2 years ago. OMTA-Egypt is led by Mahmoud Saad, who many IFOMPT delegates met in Cape Town and splits his time between living in the United Kingdom and providing clinical and educational leadership in Egypt and the UK through his professional education and clinical practice company, Primephysio. Mahmoud has assembled an impressive team of dedicated physical therapists who are committed to advancing their clinical skills and those of their colleagues in Egypt. The Congress included speakers and participants from 10 countries and over 250 participants attended the 2-day Congress. They also hosted three pre-conference workshops and four post-conference workshops that were filled to capacity. Mahmoud and his team should be proud of their accomplishment and are beginning to plan the 2nd annual event for February 2019.



Ken Olson speaking at the Conference

Before making this trip, I was apprehensive traveling to a part of the world I had never been before to experience a culture with which I have had little experience, especially in this time in our world’s history when we

seem to have so many political forces trying to create fear and separation by advocating to “build a wall” and to “Brexit”. When I first considered traveling to Egypt, I was not sure what to expect.



The OMTA organizing committee and keynote speakers in Cairo

IFOMPT was well represented throughout the Congress with IFOMPT delegates Firas Mourad, Italy, Nathan Hutting, The Netherlands, and myself providing keynote presentations and workshops. Additional keynote presentations and workshops were provided by the Advisory Group on RIG Development member and past Standards Committee member, Karen Beeton and Brian Mulligan, who announced that this will likely be his last international conference outside New Zealand. Karen and I also had opportunities to meet with Mahmoud to provide mentorship in his efforts to progress to full Member Organisation status in the future.



Brian Mulligan, Mahmoud Saad, Karen Beeton, Ken Olson, Nathan Hutting from IFOMPT at the Conference

On first consideration of the IFOMPT member benefit “knowledge sharing”, one would tend to interpret this as the IFOMPT-affiliated keynote speakers at this Congress sharing their knowledge with the members of the newly established RIG and Congress participants. Although these presentations

were impressive and were received with extreme levels of gratitude, praise, and enthusiasm, I feel that the greatest amount of impactful knowledge was shared by the members of OMTA-Egypt with us as their guests.

Mahmoud and his team were extremely gracious hosts and demonstrated that they are kind and caring individuals. The level of attention the organising committee members provided me, the other speakers, and participants at the Congress was way beyond our expectations. One example is the evening I spent walking along the River Nile with 2 members of the organising committee who explained the history of Egypt and the landmarks we were able to see along the way. This was followed by a dinner overlooking the Nile with the keynote speakers and the organising committee, including the proud 70+ year old parents of Mahmoud, who reside in Cairo. Additionally, the organising committee members arranged and provided tours of the Pyramids and the Egyptian Museum for the speakers.



Cervical Manipulation Post Conference Workshop Participants

I discovered that these relatively new members of IFOMPT truly love their country, our profession, their colleagues, their families, and cultural traditions. What occurred in Cairo is bigger than the physical therapy profession and can be used as a model to facilitate peace and understanding by breaking down the walls between our countries and cultures. I am proud to be able to welcome OMTA-Egypt to the IFOMPT family and am looking forward to additional groups from countries represented at the Congress including Saudi Arabia, Libya, Malta, and Sudan to also join IFOMPT in the future. IFOMPT is a family, and I am pleased to have a better understanding and appreciation of my brothers and sisters in Egypt.

Thank you for “Knowledge Sharing”.



Latest IFOMPT Developments

*"A candle loses nothing
by lighting another candle"*
Father James Keller

News from the Advisory Group on Finance

- Paolo Sanzo



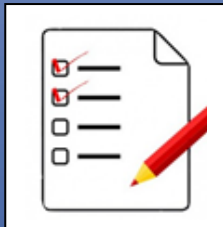
As both a previous member and now the Executive Committee (EC) liaison for the Advisory Group on Finance (AGF), it has been a pleasure to work with this dynamic group. The AGF has been very active over the past year and provided excellent oversight and critical suggestions for the financial strategies implemented by IFOMPT as an organisation.

New representation from not only the Member Organisations but also from the Registered Interest Groups and Standards Committee has and will help to continue to

provide both a historical perspective, regional and global representation, and forward thinking to the future of IFOMPT from a financial perspective.

Some of the specific items that were tasked for this group over this period have included the following:

- Investigating alternative income streams for IFOMPT and providing the EC with short and long-term strategies to consider (e.g., educational webinar and lecture series, sponsorship, and advertising opportunities). Further information on two educational webinars that will be offered in 2018 shall follow with details about the speakers, content, and worldwide availability and access either live or via a library for future review.
- Reviewing the subscription structure of IFOMPT and making recommendations for alternative structure and/or fees.



- Reviewing organisational and discretionary spending of IFOMPT and making recommendations for any appropriate cost-saving changes, where possible.
- Overseeing the forum with feedback from the membership on the suggested submission motions and fee increases.
- Proposing a strategy for the cost analysis and development of a dashboard for the organisation and all committees (tasks, cost, and time required in day to day operations, international monitoring, and in the responsibilities of members on the various committees).

These strategies and suggestions have been received with positive feedback but also with critical suggestions for consideration for future models and modifications, to make our goals sustainable and achievable around the world.

This group continues to be very active and meeting at regular intervals to help our organisation move forward and be representative of the needs of our global community and membership but also to do so in a forward thinking and financially responsible manner. Some of the strategies that have already been put into place have resulted in significant changes to the bottom line financially over the past year. Thank you to all the members on the AGF for their dedication, constructive suggestions for improvement, and open mindedness not only for the goals achieved so far but in continuing to help us move forward as a global representative of orthopaedic manipulative physical therapy.



Taskforce on Membership Qualifications

In response to suggestions from several IFOMPT Delegates and Advisory Groups, the Executive Committee has put together the attached Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Taskforce on Membership Qualifications. The intent is that this task force will study issues related to attainment and maintenance of IFOMPT membership and make recommendations to the Executive Committee and the Delegate Assembly in time to take potential actions at the 2020 meeting in Melbourne. This should allow time for much discussion and consideration among the Delegates prior to the General Meeting. Please review the [TOR](#) and consider nominations of qualified candidates.

Nominations must please include a letter of interest with a description of how the nominee's experience and credentials can assist the task force in the accomplishment of their charges and must be received by the IFOMPT Executive Director, Ingrid Du Toit, by 12 March 2018. Self-nominations are also accepted.



IFOMPT Subscriptions

Please note that the 2018 IFOMPT subscriptions are now due. Invoices were sent to all MOs and RIGs in early January 2018 and are payable by the end of February 2018. Also, please make sure that the full amount is received by IFOMPT and that your bank fees are not deducted from the amount paid over.

