

WFOT FEEDBACK SESSION

Introduction – Joanna Chetcuti MAOT President

Good Afternoon and welcome to the WFOT feedback session. Whilst we have prepared a full programme today, we wish that today's session will be an informal one where we will give you a chance to ask questions or seek more information.

As many of you may know, 10 Maltese attended the WFOT 13th Congress entitled Action for Health in a New Millennium held in Stockholm, Sweden held in June 2002. This consisted of 5 students and 5 qualified staff. When one considers our occupational therapy population, it comes as no surprise that other countries were very impressed with the Maltese turnout since it represented a very high percentage of staff and students.

The Conference week was filled with various opportunities:

- To network with foreign teaching institutions, hospitals and colleagues.
- To listen and share ideas on occupational therapy practice
- To hear from different and innovative practice areas.

But finally to be proud of our profession here in Malta. One Keynote speaker, Dr. Lena Borell (who was the first Occupational Therapist in Europe to achieve a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy in (1992) impressed me during her talk since she spoke about how far OT has moved and about instilling 'hope' in our therapists.

If there is one thing I would like to have brought back from the conference, it is this hope. When attending such a conference, one feels that Malta is on the right track in spite of our everyday problems. Culturally we tend to hold ourselves in low esteem and often (as Maryanne Sacco always tells us) start a sentence with 'the problem is...'. It is important for us to realise that there are countries worse off than us where the profession is still developing and there are countries much more advanced than us but that we are on the right track. With this I leave you in the capable hands of our speakers.

PRE-CONGRESS WORKSHOP 4

Evidence Based Practice – Impetus for the Research Oriented Clinician

Presenters: *Beverlea Tallant, Ph.D., O.T. (C) and Erika Gisel Ph.D., OTR, erg. McGill University Canada.*

Day Workshop: *Saturday June 22: 10:00 – 16:30*
Venue: *Stockholm City Conference Center, Norra Latin*

Abstract

Occupational therapists are called upon more and more to base their practice on evidence that supports the effectiveness and efficacy of their interventions. To do so, the clinician must be an astute research consumer.

Therefore, the purpose of this workshop is to introduce the experienced clinician to the methodology of the scientific process, by examining selected articles from the occupational therapy research literature. The following points will be addressed:

1. problem statements
2. choice (s) of methodology to address problems
3. results, interpretation of statistical analysis and
4. interpretation (s) of findings in a discussion.

Each point will be addressed in lecture format, followed by a practice session of the participants.

Following this course, participants will be able to critically read the literature and have a beginning knowledge of how to apply information from the scientific literature to their field of practice.

25th Council and 13th Congress Meeting

MISSION STATEMENT

The WFOT promotes Occupational Therapy as an art and science internationally. The Federation supports the development, use and practice of occupational therapy worldwide, demonstrating its relevance and contribution to society.

▷ **WFOT strategic plan 2000-2006.** This includes the WFOT mission statement, beliefs and objectives as well as the vision and aims of the five programme areas that the WFOT operates upon.

- New revised minimum standard

- Discussion within regional groups.

New countries were accepted as full members (Italy, Thailand, Namibia, Latvia & Czech Republic).

▷ Executive gave a detailed report of their work during the last two years.

- ▷ 4 programme areas
 - Education and Research
 - International Cooperation
 - Promotional and Development
 - Standard and Quality
 - Promotional material questionnaire

M'Anne Sacco - Peterson won WFOT Thelma Cardwell Award for her research.

Well done

2736 participants from over 70 countries (250 students)

- ▷ 1,709 papers were submitted
- ▷ WFOT banquet; 750
- ▷ Welcome reception; 1,752
- ▷ City hall; 2,100
- ▷ Jubileum concert; 663
- ▷ Fishing competition; 75
- ▷ loss of 1, 398 148 SEK

Future Meetings

- ▷COTEC meeting in October, 2002.
- ▷Council meeting 2004 Cape Town, South Africa.
- ▷Council and Congress meeting in 2006, Malaysia.
- ▷To submit a proposal to host 2008 executive & council meeting in Malta.