



International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapists

IFOMT NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2004

FROM THE OFFICE:

Standards Committee: During the General Meeting in Cape Town, Professor Gwen Jull was awarded Honorary Membership of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapists, in recognition for outstanding services to Manipulative Physiotherapy around the World. Gwen has been a wonderful Chairperson of the Standards Committee (SC), but after many years in this role she has now handed the Chair to Alison Rushton. Thank you again Gwen, for all the work you have done for IFOMT. We would like to welcome Alison onto the Standards Committee, and know that she will bring to the committee great expertise in this area.

Currently the SC is evaluating curriculums submitted by 3 groups, with two more pending in the not too distant future.

Special Meeting: At the request of Professor Tricas Moreno and the OMT Spain group, there will be a special General Meeting held via the website forum, starting January 24 for two weeks, after which voting will occur from February 7 for one week. The President, Michael Ritchie, will shortly write a letter that will be forwarded to all MO delegates outlining this process.

The Hellenic Manipulative Physiotherapy Association will also be voted on at this time, after they narrowly missed out on the vote taken in Cape Town. If any delegates have any queries, could these please be directed to Michael Ritchie at President@ifomt.org and he will be only too happy to answer your questions.

New Delegates: Welcome to Linda Crocker as the new delegate for the United Kingdom MO, as Alison Rushton has taken over as Chair of the Standards Committee.

Welcome also to Fiona Wilson as the new delegate for Ireland.

Office: The office has been very busy with recent enquiries from Romania, Costa Rica, Argentina, Brazil, Japan and Egypt about joining IFOMT as Registered Interest Groups or setting up an OMT programme. Recently Duncan and I met in Auckland with 3 gentlemen from Japan, who are well on the way to submitting their curriculum to the Standards Committee.

IFOMT Education Committee Europe (ECE) Meeting:

The Executive of IFOMT would like to advise that Maarit Keskinen has confirmed an ECE meeting will take place during the 9th Nordic Congress on Orthopaedic Manual Therapy and Medicine, to be held from Thursday June 9, 2005 - Saturday June 11, 2005 (3 days)

The conference will be held at the Opera House Helsinki, Finland. Event Manager: [SOMTY & SMLY](#)

More information is available from the IFOMT website, under Events.

MEMBER ORGANISATION REPORTS

Australia: Delegate – Debra Shirley

MPA CONFERENCE 2005: POSITIVE PRECISE PERFORMANCE – the theme for the MPA Conference 2005 is a resounding affirmation of the efforts and impact of musculoskeletal physiotherapy in the Australian health system. Research in this field of physiotherapy is ground breaking and its contribution to clinical practice is immediate and beneficial. Whether you are in need of a refresher on your current practices, a new career path or expansion of your knowledge and approach to musculoskeletal clinical practice, you need to mark the MPA Conference on your professional development event calendar.

The website outlines the subthemes for the conference and the talented team of keynote speakers who will be presenting their latest material. The Conference Committees are pleased to now present some of the invited speakers who will be contributing in a variety of ways to the conference program.

Carolyn Richardson and **Julie Hides** from The University of Queensland are well known for their extensive work in the area of preventative and rehabilitative exercise methods for musculoskeletal injuries. Carolyn has recently collaborated with Professor Snijders from Erasmus University and the European Space Agency, which has led to inclusion in many European Space Agency projects, including ESA's Berlin Bed Rest Study. The results of these projects is providing evidence of the possible aetiology of low back pain, as well as other conditions such as osteoarthritis of the weightbearing joints and osteoporosis. Carolyn's work continues to illuminate the scientific basis for physiotherapy approaches in exercise therapy.

Julie is also currently a team member for the Study of Low Back Pain for the European Space Agency (ESA). Closer to home she has recently been validating ultrasound imaging measurements using MRI and assessment of joint protection mechanisms in elite cricketers. Julie is also interested in researching the role of the Galileo system in physiotherapy practice. Her findings in these areas will be presented at the conference.

From University of Melbourne, the Conference Committees are pleased to present **Kay Crossley** and **Rana Hinman**. These researchers are well known for their contributions in the area of knee pain. Their research cuts across many of the subthemes for the conference and delegates can expect to gain significant insights into the efficacy of physiotherapy in the management of chronic knee pain arising from arthritis or patellofemoral disorders. Other speakers will be added to the invited speaker list as the program details are finalised over the coming months. Bookmark the MPA Conference website to keep up to date with developments in the conference programming and related events.

For registration and submission details please visit the website www.mpa2005.com.au
(Report kindly submitted by Louise Wellington)

Austria: Delegate - Jutta Bauer

This autumn has been a very busy time for the Maitland based subgroup of the OEVOMT as a new OMT course has started in September and will last until September 2006.

The OEVOMT also started a campaign to promote Manual Therapy and OMT courses in Austria.

2nd to 5th March 2005, Vienna, Austria: Congress: "Physiotherapy and Prevention"
Congress languages: German and English
Key presentations: "Physical Activity through Physiotherapy", "Workplace: A Challenge for Physiotherapists", "ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health"

Further information can be obtained from www.physioaustria.at/congress2005

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all of you! Jutta

Belgium: Delegate - Axel Beernaert

BVMT-ABTM: OMT –Group Belgium

The Belgian umbrella group for manual therapy (UBMT-UBTM, Union of Belgian Manual Therapists) will take a new start on 16 December with newly formed subcommittees.

1) PR-committee:

This committee will focus on promotion of the MT-profession through items in magazines with different target groups and presentations for patients and general practitioners.

2) Accreditation committee:

The accreditation system for our members will be evaluated and adapted to a new accreditation system. This will be implemented for the members of both organisations within the umbrella group.

3) Scientific committee:

This committee is responsible for the organisation of scientific activities and providing scientific contributions for the web-site, magazines and presentations. The newly formed scientific committee has members from different Belgian Universities (KUL, VUB, UGent).

Our next scientific activity will be a workshop with Chris Powers about Dynamic MRI on 24/03/2004.

More information can be found on our website <http://www.bvmt-abtm.be>

Canada: Delegate - Anita Gross

It has been an exciting past 6 months for the Canadian Academy of Manipulative Therapists (CAMT). We have been involved in many activities; here are some highlights:

- Our website (www.manipulativetherapists.org) has a posting on our most recent manual therapist public awareness effort published in numerous provincial Canadian general practitioner journals. It is an evidence-based practice case scenario for the cervical spine profiling manual therapy practice. Come to our website and have a look.
- Our first step in exploring the development of an Education Committee (Americas) has occurred with Michael Ritchie taking the lead. Representing IFOMT, he met with the CAMT executive in St Johns, New Foundland – our annual Orthopaedic Symposium, and with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Therapist's (AAOMPT) executive in Louisville, Kentucky – their annual conference. As the next step, it was suggested by Ken Olson, president of AAOMPT that we get our executives together to discuss the formation of the EC Americas.
- The Canadian Physiotherapy Association's 'Index of Materials for Cervical Spinal Manipulation' has been prepared as a resource for Canadian physiotherapists who include spinal manipulation in their practice. It is intended to provide references to assist physiotherapists obtain the information that will guide them in the safe and effective practice of spinal manipulation. I will keep you posted when this comes on-line.
- We are exploring an Evidence-based Retreat with Paul Stratford at a Rocky Mountain Resort. We want to equip our members and teachers with the tools needed to excel in this field.

Denmark: Delegate – Per Kjaer

Science is increasingly represented in manual therapy in Denmark. Soon we will have two Ph.Ds among our teachers, we already have three with masters' degrees, one coming up, and seven have been appointed specialists in musculo-skeletal physiotherapy as well.

Therefore, our next strategy for the development of our basic manual therapy diploma education is to update the scientific and clinical evidence for the theoretical and practical aspects of our manual therapy education. To achieve this, we are planning a major review of the literature. In this work we hope it will be possible to cooperate with other members of IFOMT as well as national partners in other fields of musculo-skeletal physiotherapy and educational institutions. Those interested can contact Denmark@IFOMT.org

Having had so many members of the teaching group studying, has taken a good part of our resources, but fortunately these "students" are coming back to the manual therapy group with lots of inspiration and new ideas. Still both our diploma and basic education is attractive, despite the fact that we still have no economical benefits from our high qualifications.

The Scandinavian research congress will be held in Copenhagen in June. There will be an interesting programme, with presentation of research in physiotherapy from all of Scandinavia as well as other countries. For further information: <https://www.nhg.dk/Default.asp?ID=735>

Last year, Peter O'Sullivan visited Denmark and gave very interesting lectures on a national conference for all Danish physiotherapists. During the spring Michael Shacklock will be giving courses in Denmark.

This is, in short, manual therapy in the fast lane in Denmark for the moment being!
Inge Ris and Per Kjaer

Finland: Delegate – Maarit Keskinen

No report received.

Germany: Delegate - Fiona Morrison

2005 is going to be a busy and interesting year for Manual Therapy in Germany. The DFAMT is now in its 10th year. Much has changed in those ten years, and all of it has been exciting to watch. The next ten years are more than likely going to be just as exciting. Two members of our umbrella group will be carrying out the OMT examinations in the first half of the year.

There are 2 conferences coming up in 2005, both of which have involved members of the DFAMT. In May, there will be a big physiotherapy conference in Aachen (for more information see www.physiokongress.de). In September a one-day conference about research in the field of physiotherapy will be held for the second time, after the success of the inaugural conference this year (for more information see www.physio-akademie.de).

Hong Kong: Delegate - Agnes Chan

The continuing educational courses on manipulative therapy for practicing physiotherapists are provided by Manipulative Therapy Specialty Group and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Local manipulative physiotherapists have been participating in teaching courses on manual physiotherapy in Mainland China in recent years.

Italy: Delegate - Guido Frosi

The GTM Italy General Meeting took place last Saturday in Parma. More than 100 colleagues attended (we also invited the students of the local University). In the morning we organized a scientific session, with seven speakers. In the afternoon we voted the new Executive Committee, which is now composed as follows:

- Guido Frosi (Chairman), Giorgio Zanasi (Secretary), Stefano Pelazza (Treasurer), Davide Albertoni, Marco Barbero, Francesco Serafini, Ruggero Strobbe (Resp. relationship with IFOMT), Andrea Zimoli

Furthermore, we have other colleagues collaborating with the EC. We are looking forward to doing our best for the next three years, both in our country and at an international level, together with IFOMT.

Netherlands: Delegate - Will Bonneveld

We are very proud to tell you that we have started publishing a new Manual Therapy Journal in the Netherlands. This journal is the official journal of the Dutch Association for Manual Therapy (NVMT) and will therefore have Dutch as its operative language. We will however, not hesitate to publish English articles. The journal will be published each quarter.

In the Netherlands we have had to come up with a number of statements about Manual Therapy, some of which are designed to give us a specific place in the primary healthcare field. This has a lot to do with the way in which healthcare, especially primary healthcare, is now organised in The Netherlands and the way politics are trying to manoeuvre Physiotherapy and Manual Therapy into an open economic market system.

- The Manual Therapist is a specialist within the field of Physiotherapy.
- The Manual Therapist is mainly focused on complaints of the spine and peripheral complaints originating (in part) from the spine.
- The Manual Therapist is mainly focused on the curative field
- The Manual Therapist is the "gatekeeper" for patients with complaints of the spine and peripheral complaints originating (in part) from the spine and he/she makes the decision, if treatment is necessary. If so, he/she then decides whether he/she will be best suited to perform the treatment himself or if he/she should refer to a different specialist either within or outside the field of Physiotherapy.
- The Manual Therapist has all the necessary (best) evidence based knowledge and the relevant networks to refer patients if applicable.

These statements do not aim to state that Manual Therapy does not apply to or has no specific knowledge of the peripheral joints, but are only designed to help clarify which patients should preferably be assessed by a Manual Therapist first.

Below is some information on our annual, two-day scientific congress in March 2005.

The theme for the congress in March 2005 will be: ***"Evidence Based Practice on the shop floor"***.

The 2005 congress will put "everyday practice" at centre stage. The process between manual therapist and client is more and more being looked upon as a process of problem solving. This is characterised by clinical reasoning which should turn into "evidence based practice" (EBP) or Evidence Based Medicine (EBM). EBM or EBP is being described as: "the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of the individual patient. It means integrating individual clinical expertise with the best available external clinical evidence from systematic research."(Sackett et al., 2000).

This definition of EBP requires a way of clinical reasoning which brings together the external evidence, the clinical expertise of the manual therapist and the thoughts and beliefs of the patient in an equivalent

and harmonious connection. This way of clinical reasoning (conditional reasoning) is characterised by procedural as well as narrative elements. Some speakers will elaborate on the recognition of patterns as a strategy within procedural reasoning, talk about patterns of signs and symptoms linked with data on age, gender and aetiology together with the basis for this linkage (especially outcomes of clinical -patient-trials). The methodological quality of physical tests (reproducibility and validity), used to detect signs and symptoms during physical examination, and the role they play in the process of clinical reasoning will be discussed. Another issue will be the different methods of communication between manual therapist and client. This will be done with regards to narrative reasoning. The hermeneutical approach, in which the manual therapist tries to put together external evidence, his clinical expertise, the clients thoughts and (illness) beliefs, will also be presented.

International speakers will include:

From Australia: Dr Ian Edwards, Dr. Lorimer Moseley and Dr. Deborah Falla

From the UK: Professor Ann Moore

From Canada: Anita Gross

For more information you can contact: nvmt@kngf.nl or visit www.nvmt.nl

New Zealand: Delegate – Donna Hickmott

Major activities planned for the New Zealand Manipulative Physiotherapists Association (N.Z.M.P.A.) in 2005 are as follows:

The Scientific Congress to be held in Rotorua, July 2005 promises to be a great event. The theme for the congress is 'Getting Connected- Bone and Tendon' with the following keynote speakers confirmed: Bill Vicenzino from the University of Queensland, Steve Edmondston from Curtin University, Jill Cook from La Trobe (all from Australia) and Meena Sran from Vancouver, Canada. There will also be an Asia / West Pacific Education Committee meeting held on the Saturday of the conference.

Rotorua is a wonderful thermal tourist destination and is only an hours drive to the North Island ski fields, so start thinking about booking now. This information is available from the IFOMT website under Events/ Biennial National Congress (New Zealand), or if you wish to find out more please contact Vicki Reid (NZMPA Executive Officer and conference administrator) at admin@nzmpa.org.nz or admin@ifomt.org Jill Cook and Bill Vicenzino will run a one-day pre conference course, and Meena Sran and Brian Mulligan will run a one-day post conference course.

The New Zealand Guidelines Group (link also on our website - www.nzgg.org.nz) recently published three guidelines of interest and we are currently negotiating to have them linked to the IFOMT website:

- New Zealand Acute Low Back Pain Guide, incorporating the Guide to Assessing Psychosocial Yellow Flags in Acute Low Back Pain - June 2003
- Diagnosis and Management of Soft Tissue Knee Injuries: Internal Derangements - July 03
- Diagnosis and Management of Soft Tissue Shoulder Injuries and Related Disorders - May 04

The NZ College of Physiotherapy accredited membership courses (CAMC) run by NZMPA continue to be popular with courses running concurrently in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. There are 25-30 physiotherapists attending these courses run in the weekends every two months. These courses offer registered physiotherapists the opportunity to up-skill in all areas of musculoskeletal management and treatment.

Norway: Delegate - Heather Nicol

The Primary Contact trial (Referral Project) is still awaiting presentation and voting in parliament. Further information can be found on our website www.manuellterapi.com under "English info".

The Norwegian manual therapy group will be holding their annual seminar in Molde 11th-13th March 2005. The theme is " Work or sickness benefit" with Norwegian presenters and our International guest speaker will be Professor Gordon Waddell (Advisor for UK Dept. for Work and Pensions).

Portugal: Delegate - João Filipe Vasconcelos Abreu

No report received.

South Africa: Delegate - Lorraine Jacobs

The Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapists Group of the South African Society of Physiotherapy has an exciting year planned for Continuing Professional Development: Two post basic OMT courses are currently being run, in Durban and Pretoria. The next course will be run in Johannesburg early in 2005. Cape Town will start a course in 2006. This still remains one of the most successful and popular courses in South Africa.

Dr Mariano Rocabado has been invited as a keynote speaker to the SASP Congress in Johannesburg on 29 May – 1 June 2005. The final module of his course will be run immediately afterwards.

Helen Clare will run a four day course on the concepts of **the McKenzie Method in Mechanical Diagnosis and Therapy**, as applied in the examination and treatment of patients with low back pain and related referred pain. The course will be run in **Cape Town** from **21st to 24th July 2005** and in **Johannesburg** from **28th to 31st July 2005**.

Sarah Mottram from Kinetic Control will be in South Africa in June and November next year. The first course in June is on **Diagnosis of mechanical back pain, subgroups and stability retraining of the spine**

Masters in OMT

The Universities of Pretoria, Witwatersrand and Stellenbosch have agreed to run a Masters degree in Manual Therapy which will include an extensive clinical component, according to criteria laid down by IFOMT. The major difference (from the previous degrees) will be that a clinical component of 160 hours will be added. This will mean that the Masters students will graduate with research *and clinical skills*. This is a wonderful step forward for manual therapy in South Africa and we thank the universities for their understanding and co-operation.

Sweden: Delegate - Johan Liljebäck

During the year that is almost at an end we have had our yearly congress where the main lecturer was Jane Greening, PhD, MSc, MCSP, MMAPC. Freddy Kaltenborn was also there and gave us a retrospective talk about OMT-history.

Furthermore we had;

- Central Pain-mechanism and management /Neural mobilisation-current concept and new advances. Neural mobilisation-current concepts and new advances-upper and lower quarters. By Michael Shacklock, PT, CSOMT.
- Osteoporosis in manual Therapy.

Å.Bläckberg, MD , M.Möller, PT, PhD. , B.Ersson, MD, specialist Orthopaedic Medicine , O.Svensson, MD, Professor.

- Joint-and Muscle related pain, lectures and work-shops.
J.Alvemalm, PT, CSOMT, Mulligan Concept Teacher Association , S.Zettergren, PT, OMT, Specialist MFP-syndrome, R.Stadra, MD, Orthopaedic Medicine, specialist in injection therapy
- The Mulligan Concept-Basic Upper Quarter
- The Mulligan Concept-Basic lower Quarter.
By J.Alvemalm, PT, CSOMT, Mulligan Concept Teacher Association.

And we are just ready with the program for our yearly congress in 17-19/3-2005.

Swedish OMT-congress 2005.

- Foot problems - Henning Langberg, PT, PhD Denmark.
- Neck-and TMJ-problems and associated disorders - P-O Eriksson, MD, Proffessor, Kajsa Wallenius, PT, Karin Harms-Ringdahl, PT, Professor Catharina Bexander, PT, CSOMT, PhD student, Carsten Tjell, MD.

The first day will be in Stockholm and the other 2 days on a ferry to Finland. We hope that this will inspire the delegates to go to the Nordic congress in Finland in the summer of 2005.

It has been decided by the Swedish national organisation that every Swedish physiotherapist must join a sub-group under the national organisation. We, the OMT-group, are aiming to be the largest of these sub-groups. To get there will take some time but we are convinced that we will succeed in doing so.

Switzerland: Delegate - Renée De Ruijter

Together with the other German speaking countries we are checking the possibility to get the IFOMT documents translated in German. I do hope we can start with it soon.

Currently the third postgraduate programme is running, with 20 Physiotherapists enrolled. Final practical exams will take place in 2005 and the literature study will be finished in 2006. The next OMT programme will start in autumn 2005. The programme is built on the Maitland- and the Kaltenborn-Evjenth Concept and takes MT's from various manual therapy directions on board. The official course language is German. Up until now we not only had Swiss but also German students in the programme.

United Kingdom: Delegate - Linda Crocker

CSP Congress - October 2004:

For a physiotherapist with an interest in neuromusculoskeletal physiotherapy the CSP Congress provided a magnificent source of the latest research – with 5 out of the 9 Clinical Interest Groups (CIG) providing NMS programmes. The variety of CIGs meant that the papers presented were diverse and the conference was not weighted to one condition. The only disadvantage was that programmes ran in parallel and it was often difficult to co-ordinate the timings of different sessions.

The majority of the presentations were from the UK and provided an opportunity to see just how much good quality research is being undertaken in this country. Notably, some large pragmatic randomised controlled trials were presented. However there was a recurring theme in this clinical research with a lack of homogeneity of patient groups in particular with the back pain trials. Two speakers addressed the sub-classification of back pain namely C Mc Cathy and S May. C McCarthy cited this as a probable reason why so many trials in this area fail to show that Physiotherapy is an effective management option, topical with the recent publication of a number of back pain treatment trials in the BMJ.

The MACP programme was opened by Professor Ann Moore with the topic “What is the evidence for Manual Therapy”. Important messages included the lack of consensus of the terminology used in manual therapy papers with manipulation, mobilizations taking on a wide range of names and definitions. A warning came with relying on systematic trials *only* to make decisions on best practice, highlighting the fact that the results of this type of paper are dependent on the quality of RCTs and that older trials may not reflect present day practice. A different area of research was for example that of Trish Dolan “The contribution of the disc to low back pain”. This was an interesting presentation of her latest findings on disc anatomy, reaction to compression and movement forces and aging. She made it very easy to relate this to clinical practice. Sunday’s programme covered a review of the literature on vertebral artery, the validity and reliability of the Sharp Purser test and normative values for deep flexor testing.

The Pain Associations keynote speaker was Professor Flor an expert on psychophysiology and behavioural treatment of chronic pain from Germany. She demonstrated how imaging techniques could reveal abnormalities in the somatosensory cortex with chronic pain providing a number of examples. The Hand Therapy group provided a number of interesting papers related to the upper limb with K Butler (Occupational Therapist) demonstrating the use of brain imaging techniques in the assessment of musicians with focal dystonia before and after sensory reeducation.

The Association of Orthopaedic Chartered Physiotherapists papers varied from the classification and treatment of muscle patterning abnormalities in shoulder instability, the results of rehabilitation programme for large rotator cuff tears to a podiatrists perspective on plantar fasciitis.

We would like to thank the MACP for funding us, we found the all programmes that we were able to visit excellent and the opportunities to network, meet friends and see what else was happening within the profession plentiful.

Linda Exelby and Ronnie Bowles (MMACP)

THE EDINBURGH CONFERENCE

“Pain and Performance: Evidence and Effect”

23rd -25th September 2005. The MACP AGM will be held on the Saturday evening at this conference.

Bookings are now open **do** take advantage of the early bird prices.

See website: www.kmacp-conference2005.com for latest details. A number of people have registered already. Also see list of pre conference courses.

A last chance to present a free paper/poster the closing dates are 15th January 2005.

USA: Delegate – Ken Olson

The American Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapists (MO USA) is very active in the advocacy of Manual Therapy. This includes efforts at the State and National level to ensure reasonable reimbursement for, and public access to, our services. The AAOMPT is working with our parent organization, APTA, to credential clinical Fellowship programs in Manual Therapy (currently eight) and has developed educational programs and a manual to enhance the teaching of manipulation in entry-level physical therapy programs.

The 10th Annual Academy Conference was held in October in Louisville, Kentucky and was a resounding success with record attendance (over 250). Keynote speakers Brian Mulligan and Karim Khan presented some exciting material on functional Manual Therapy and clinically relevant science and evidence based treatment.

Pre-Conference courses included a Mulligan Advanced course, Teaching Manipulation in the First Professional Degree Programs, and the use of Real-time Ultrasound in the management of Lumbo-pelvic dysfunction.

We were very pleased to have IFOMT President, Michael Ritchie attend the conference as our guest. Many of our members had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Ritchie regarding IFOMT and global issues facing Manual Therapy. Mr. Ritchie met with the executive committee and spoke to the Academy membership outlining his plan for the development of an EC Americas within IFOMT. The Academy and the CAMT (MO Canada) have begun discussions to this end. We would like to thank Mr. Ritchie for attending and making himself readily available for questions from our membership.

We look forward to working with the Mr. Ritchie, the IFOMT Executive and other Member Organizations to continue to promote manual therapy worldwide.

Submitted by Ken Olson, President AAOMPT (MO USA) and Chris Schowalter, International committee chair, AAOMPT

RIG REPORTS

Greece:

Panhellenic Association of Manual Physiotherapists – Delegate Despoina Proimaki

Our short informational periodical for this year includes the following:

- Continuation of our scheduled educational seminars and courses (both in Athens & Salonica)
- Preparation of the exams (written and clinical performance) of two groups: basic education and final OMT Examination. In agreement with our agenda, the examination will take place on December and January of the following year (2005).
- We are very close to completing our educational curriculum for submission and, at the moment, we're working some appropriate details.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES:

WCPT: The provisional dates for the next congress in Vancouver will be 3rd – 7th June 2007.

IFOMT: [Next Conference Rotterdam, the Netherlands June 8-15, 2008](#)

Contact: Erik Thoomes ejthoomes@wxs.nl

I would like to advise that the office will be **closed from Monday 20 December**, until Monday 10 January 2005. Jenny Clancy will cover the office for the week from 10 – 15 January and I will return from annual leave on Monday 22 January.

May you all have a happy and safe festive season, and best wishes for 2005!

Kind regards

Vicki Reid
IFOMT Secretariat