



PRESS RELEASE

World Physical Therapy 2007

WCPT announces addition of Discussion Panels and Debates

The International Scientific Committee is pleased to announce that it has added a number of lively discussion forums to its Congress programme. There are two formats: discussion panels and debates.

Discussion Panels: Up to six panellists from various parts of the world are invited to contribute to these sessions aimed at debating key issues related to areas of international interest, led by a chair who facilitates conversation and keeps the flow of discussion moving. Constructive controversy and debate are welcome and topics that are open-ended in nature and promote an exchange of ideas work well in this format. Following a brief introduction by the chair and short stimulus presentations from each member of the panel the audience will have the opportunity to pose questions to panel members to stimulate discussion among panellists and with the audience. The emphasis will be forwards looking.

Duration: 1.5 hours

- Qualifying Education – What are the right entry-level qualifications for physical therapy? Chair, Alice Jones, Hong Kong
- The ICF –How should we be using it in physical therapy practice, education and research? Chair: Catharine Sykes, Australia
- Standards & Specialisation – How should we develop international/national standards for practice in speciality areas? Chair: Emma Stokes, Ireland
- Politics and professional autonomy – establish, recognise and respect: the rights of passage for professional status? Chair: Elisabeth Haase, Denmark

Debates: A lively and interactive debate to discuss the merits for and against an issue. Up to 2 speakers for each opposing side of an argument will exchange views and explore controversial issues, facilitated by a chair. The audience will be given the chance to raise points from the floor and challenge speakers. At the end of the debate and discussion period the audience will be asked to weigh the evidence for each side of the argument and vote on the issue, potentially producing a winner to the contest.

Duration: 1.5 hours

- Scope of Practice – Physical therapy must get back to its roots and focus on its core expertise. Chair: Elizabeth Ellis, Australia

Further information on these will be added to the website as it becomes available:

www.wcpt.org/congress/programme/other/index.php

Platform and Poster Presentations

The **abstract submission deadline of 15 September has now passed**. All individuals who submitted abstracts will be notified whether their presentation has been accepted by **31 January 2007**.

Online Registration and Housing

The **Early Bird registration** fee is now available for those who know they are coming to the Congress and are ready to register and pay before 28 February 2007. Full details of all registration fees, plus online registration and hotel booking are available at www.wcpt.org/congress.

If it is not possible for you to register online and you require a manual mail/fax registration/hotel reservation form please contact the Congress Secretariat at wcpt@seatoskymeetings.com or +1-604-984-6455.

Optional Social Programme & Tours

A variety of social events that showcase the diversity and richness of Canadian culture have been planned along with optional tours that are available both pre and post Congress as well as during Congress. These tours will provide an opportunity to experience the natural beauty of Vancouver and the surrounding area.

Find full details of the social events and tours, including a full colour brochure at <http://www.wcpt.org/congress/social/index.php>

Don't forget to visit our Congress discussion forum

The forum is a web-based discussion group which provides the opportunity for physical therapists to exchange ideas, promote collaboration, share information and develop networks. It has been set up to help delegates to World Physical Therapy 2007 to network both pre and post Congress, and we very much hope you will use it.

Visit the forum and start networking with fellow delegates now at <http://www.wcpt.org/smfforum/index.php#5>

Advertisements & Promotional Flyer Available

Advertisements for inclusion in publications, and further promotional information can be downloaded from the WCPT website at www.wcpt.org/congress/downloads.php

Full details on all of the above can be found on WCPT's website: www.wcpt.org/congress

The Congress will be hosted by the Canadian Physiotherapy Association and will take place in Vancouver, Canada from 2-6 June 2007 at the Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre (www.vcec.ca)

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