

THE IFSHT INFORMATION PAGE

Welcome to the inaugural bulletin from the International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapy (IFSHT) which will appear in each issue of this journal. IFSHT is grateful to the Journal of Hand Therapy for their support.

IFSHT, formed in 1987 under the leadership of Ms. Evelyn Mackin and others, is comprised of hand therapy organizations from 29 countries with the purpose of coordinating activities of the various societies for hand therapy internationally and increasing and enhancing the exchange of knowledge of hand therapy. We invite you to visit our website for more information about IFSHT. If you belong to an IFSHT member country, you are a member of IFSHT!

7TH TRIENNIAL CONGRESS HELD IN AUSTRALIA

The Sydney Convention Center at Darling Harbour was the site of the 7th Triennial Congress of IFSHT on March 11-15, 2007 with a record attendance of 513 therapists representing 32 countries. Held in conjunction with the 10th Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH), the congress shared exciting information and insights.



2007-2010 IFSHT EXCO MEMBERS (left to right): **President:** Judy Colditz (USA); **Historian:** Ulrika Klingvall (Sweden); **Past-President:** Margareta Persson (Sweden); **President-Elect:** Thieu du Bois (Netherlands); **Treasurer:** Lynne Feehan (Canada); and **Secretary-General:** Sarah Ewald (Switzerland).

Highlights of the meeting included an opening musical medley featuring the world renown jazz musician James Morrison, keynote speaker David Butler, symposium sessions with submitted papers and workshops with invited speakers, a combined session with the surgeons on the PIP joint, a presentation on Medicine in the Antarctic, the inaugural IFSSH Swanson Lecture by Professor Goran Lundborg from Sweden on "The Intelligent Hand and the Plastic Brain," and a fun evening outdoors for all congress participants and accompanying persons at Luna Park, overlooking Sydney harbour and the Sydney opera house.

NEW MEMBER COUNTRIES

IFSHT welcomes Slovenia and India as new member countries. Each country has recently formed a hand therapy society.

UPCOMING 8TH IFSHT TRIENNIAL CONGRESS

The USA will host the next IFSHT meeting in Orlando, Florida in 2010. This meeting will be held separately from the 11th Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand, but the two societies will meet again jointly in 2013 when India will host both congresses in Delhi.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: Listings of upcoming courses sponsored by member countries does not indicate IFSHT endorsement.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
May 4-6, 2007	Canadian Hand Therapy Conference	Toronto, Canada	www.handtherapy.ca
May 10, 2007	Danish Hand Therapy/Surgery Meeting	Denmark	www.etf.dk
May 16-19, 2007	BAHT Level II: Hand Trauma	Swansea, Wales, UK	Sarah.thomson@swansea-tr.wales.nhs.uk
May 17-19, 2007	Hand 2007: Biomechanics of the wrist and hand	Wisconsin, USA	www.asht.org
May 17-20, 2007	BAHT Level II: PIP Joint	Finchley, UK (London area)	www.neshands.co.uk
June 27-30, 2007	XII Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand	Athens, Greece	www.fessh2007.com
July 2007	Hand-Shoulder Synchronization Course	Uruguay	Jhareau@chasque.net
Sept 2007	New Zealand Hand Therapy Meeting	New Zealand	www.nzah.org.nz
Sept 28-30, 2007	BAHT Level II: Management of the Thumb	Chelsea, London, UK	angela.fielder@chelwest.nhs.uk