



International Federation of Physical Therapists working in Occupational Health and Ergonomics

11 December 2020

Dear Member Organisations,

Please distribute our December 2020 **IPTOHE Newsletter** to all your individual members

Resources - update

An infographic with details about IFPTOHE was developed in the Netherlands and translated into English for broader use. Please display it proudly in your work setting (attached in the email and can also be found at <https://ifptohe.wixsite.com/ifptohe/becoming-a-member>).

The IFPTOHE website <https://ifptohe.wixsite.com/ifptohe> has regular information and updates. We thank our Executive Committee Secretary, Marisa Coetzee, for developing and maintaining the website. Recently added are some short video clips from Researcher-physiotherapists in the UK, Kenya, Thailand and Sweden. We welcome your input and aim to profile one researcher per month for the next few months. Please visit our website and contribute!

The Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Occupational Health and Ergonomics (ACPOHE) is a Professional Network of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy in the UK and has recently released their guidance document about Return to work after Covid-19. Our Executive Committee member Nicola Suckley was part of the team developing the document <https://acpohe.csp.org.uk/documents/acpohe-recovering-covid-19-rtw-guidance>.

Connecting with Stakeholders

IFPTOHE's application to become an official campaign partner of [EU-OHSA campaign Lighten the Load](#) is submitted by our Vice President, Yvonne van Zaanen – this is a great opportunity for our group.

The World Bank contacted IFPTOHE to find physiotherapists with ergonomics experience to conduct activities in Kenya, Africa. This provided an exciting opportunity and we hope more opportunities will arise in the future now they know about our subgroup.

Baltic Congress of Physiotherapy – December 2020 – IFPTOHE executive committee members Rose Boucaut, Yvonne van Zaanen and Nicola Suckley gave a three-part group presentation. This is new initiative where Baltic and Irish Physios will join in a webinar. Both the Estonian Association of Physiotherapists and the Irish Chartered Physiotherapists in Occupational Health and Ergonomics are Member Organisations of IFPTOHE, and we thank Liina Pääbo (Estonia) and Theresa Flynn (Ireland) for this opportunity to renew and meet fellow occupational health physiotherapists and those interested in this work.



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General Meeting 2021

IFPTOHE 2nd General Meeting - will be conducted virtually in 2021. Date: Monday March 15th

Time: 10.00am London (United Kingdom time) Duration: expected to be 1 hour maximum

All members of our 23 MOs, our Associate-Member and our Member-elect are welcome to this meeting.

Before the General Meeting (GM) we will conduct our voting so that results can be announced at the GM.

The advanced e-voting will relate to the following items:

Our Member-elect, The Ghana Physiotherapy Association, joining IFPTOHE

Voting for IFPTOHE Executive Committee member (see notes below)

Possible future name change from IFPTOHE to IFPOHE (changing (PT) Physical Therapy to (P) Physiotherapy to align with World Physiotherapy).

Note there is only one vote per Member Organisation which needs to be set up in advance of the meeting (by Monday 1st March 2021) so we can invite you electronic means— a call for the names of voters will be sent out in early 2021

Elections for new Executive Committee members

The IFPTOHE Executive Committee are pleased to advise that one candidate nominated for a position on the Executive Committee, Professor Vasiliki Sakellari, representing the Panhellenic Association of Physiotherapists (PSF) in Greece. Her nomination form and letter of support is attached to this email. Voting for Executive Committee Members will occur in early March 2021 prior to the General Meeting on March 15th, and the outcome announced at the General Meeting.

We still have one vacant position on the Executive Committee, please advise if this is of interest to you at your earliest convenience (note: only one nominee per Member Organisation is allowed on the Committee at the same time).

We thank our retiring committee members Professor Rosimeire Simprini Padula (representing The Associação Brasileira de Fisioterapeutas do Trabalho (ABRAFIT)) and Mr Fredrik Lassen (representing The Danish Society for Physiotherapy in Occupational Health) and wish them well in the future.



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Upcoming events

(2020 - The Baltic Congress of Physiotherapy – December 3th, including Baltic - Irish webinar with IFPTOHE Executive Committee members as invited speakers)

2021 - Virtual World Physiotherapy Congress

2021 - IEA congress Vancouver Canada, in-person & virtual

2022 - ICOH Melbourne Australia

2023 - World Physiotherapy Congress Tokyo Japan

Addendum

On the following page please find:

- The IFPTOHE infographic screenshot – please download the full resolution from our website at <https://ifptohe.wixsite.com/ifptohe/becoming-a-member> and print out for display at your workplace
- Nomination from Candidate, Professor Vasiliki Sakellari, for Executive Committee Election



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INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

IFPTOHE

International Federation of Physical Therapists
working in Occupational Health and Ergonomics

23 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Africa: Kenya, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda
Asia West-Pacific: Australia, New-Zealand, Japan
Europe: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Malta, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands and United Kingdom
North-America and The Caribbean: none
South-America: Brazil, Peru

4 World Physiotherapy Regions



7 ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS



Rose Boucaut (Australia, president)
Yvonne de Leeuw- van Zaanen (The Netherlands, vice president)
Marisa Coetzee (South Africa, secretary)
Nicola Suckley (United Kingdom)
Frederik Lassen (Denmark)
Kjerstin Stigmar (Sweden)
Rosimeire Padula (Brazil)

JOIN US 

THE BENEFITS

- Speed up the growth of our profession
- Share information, ideas and resources easily
- Learning with and from each other
- Strengthen organisations
- Follow professional development including research, conferences and courses
- Standardise education and training



 On these platforms we will share practice, knowledge, new research about occupational health and ergonomics. [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

 [Read more](#) about how to become a member organisation.

We support, develop and promote, the international practice of Physiotherapists working in Occupational Health and Ergonomics, in order to improve the health and wellbeing of the global workforce

Founded in Geneva in 2019
[Subgroup World Physiotherapy](#)



International Federation of Physical Therapists
working in
Occupational Health and Ergonomics

Nominee Profile for Executive Committee IFPTOHE

Vasiliki Sakellari:



EMAIL



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www.facebook.com/vasiliki.sakellari

LinkedIn:

[//www.linkedin.com/in/vasiliki-sakellari-37509b41/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/vasiliki-sakellari-37509b41/)

: <https://twitter.com/vsakellari2>

REPRESENTING:

Representing:

Panhellenic
Association of
Physiotherapists
(PSF)

Vasiliki Sakellari, is Professor at the Department of Physiotherapy of the University of West Attica. She is the Vice President and Chairman of the Doctoral Studies Committee of the Department of Physiotherapy, Member of the Coordinating Committee of the Postgraduate Program "New Methods of Physiotherapy" and Faculty of Health and Care Sciences Erasmus Coordinator.

She is a physiotherapist, holds a master's degree in Ergonomics (University College London) and a Ph.D. from University of London - Institute of Neurology. She has worked as a Physiotherapist of the Prefectural General Hospital of Lamia.

She was a full member of the General Assembly ELIDEK, Director of the Center for Technological Research of Central Greece.

Also, for several years she was the Director of the School of Health & Welfare Professions of the TEI of Lamia and, Institutional Coordinator of the SOCRATES - Erasmus Program.

Participated in the European Supported Program: Human Capital and Mobility, Medical Research Council (M.R.C.), London and the FP7 European Program (www.profound.eu.com). She currently coordinates the ESPA funded research project McHeELP (Motor control Home ergonomics Elderlies' Prevention of falls).

She teaches the following subjects: Clinical Education in Neurological Physiotherapy, Ergonomics and Consulting in Physiotherapy, Physiotherapy in Geriatrics. She has also taught at Kingston University London Department of Osteopathy as a part time Lecturer in Ergonomics.

Based on my international studies on Ergonomics, my teaching and research experience in occupational health and ergonomics I would like to contribute to IFPTOHE and accept any position if elected.

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9481-996X>