Workshop in Taiwan

Marketing and Promotion of Occupational Therapy Services: From Global Experiences

March 16 2012

The many activities that surround the WFOT Executive and Council Meetings in Malaysia and Taiwan began on March 16th when 66 occupational therapists attended this one day workshop at the National Taiwan University, Taipei. Organised by the Taiwan Association of Occupational Therapists (TOTA), the workshop was presented by Marilyn Pattison, World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Executive Director, and Samantha Shann, WFOT Vice President Finance.

Workshop participants worked in a wide range of areas of occupational therapy practice in Taiwan, including vocational rehabilitation; hearing impairment services; general hospitals; community rehabilitation; long term care; academia and psychiatric services.

The workshop utilised a variety of learning activities to explore current global trends in health care and the opportunities that these developments may offer to occupational therapists and occupational therapy services in Taiwan. Examples of taking an entrepreneurial approach to meeting the needs of clients through innovative occupational therapy programmes were constructed. These examples were applicable to those working in private practice, in government hospitals, in the community, and many other settings. Participants shared ideas for future programmes and services which ranged from mainstreaming disability with ideas ranging from a club for people with disabilities who are not currently in the workforce and a centre to promote design for healthy living to capacity building opportunities such as a service for linking volunteers in work skills development and a community based occupational therapy service addressing quality of life issues at home and in the community.

Congratulations to all workshop participants, and to TOTA for taking the opportunity to have WFOT support occupational therapy in Taiwan during the WFOT Executive and Council meetings which are being held in Taiwan from 22 – 30 March.

WFOT Executive will also contribute to promoting occupational therapy during the first part of the Executive Management Team Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, 18 – 21st March, by presenting a stream in the ‘1st World Congress on Healthy Ageing’.
Workshop Participants with Marilyn Pattison and Samantha Shann (front row, centre)

Marilyn Pattison (left) and Samantha Shann (right)
Workshop participants