

**26th Council Meeting of the World Federation of Occupational
Therapists**
Cape Town, South Africa
26th – 30th April, 2004'

The Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa (OTASA) gave a warm welcome to the Executive, Delegates and Observers at WFOT's 26th Council Meeting in Cape Town.



On April 25th, prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting all attendees were invited to participate in the WFOT Focus Day. Focus Day is an initiative that began in 1994 and it has been used since that time primarily to facilitate the change to the now established management structure. It was agreed in 2000 following the implementation of the management structure that Focus Day could continue to be used to promote long term planning and discussion amongst Delegates to ensure that WFOT is meeting and continues to meet the needs of its member associations and the occupational therapists they represent.

The Focus Day is an opportunity to:

- ❑ Allow member countries to have their voices heard in relationship to the direction of WFOT.
- ❑ Contribute with ideas to change priorities into action.
- ❑ Ensure that as an organization WFOT is continuously fine tuning the direction of its efforts
- ❑ Make the WFOT vision visible through actions that are in line with organizational priorities
- ❑ Make certain that WFOT resources are utilized to work toward issues that have been identified as most important
- ❑ Ensure that WFOT fully understands the needs of its member associations and the occupational therapists they represent

The primary issue that was addressed in the 2004 Focus Day was the beginning of the review of the Strategic Plan. Participants were asked to imagine and plan today the WFOT of tomorrow. The results of that planning will form part of an article from the Honorary Secretary and the 1st Vice President in the November issue of the Bulletin.

Delegates worked in small groups representing the major regions

African Region



America's Region



Asia Pacific Region



European Region



The Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa (OTASA) gave a warm welcome to the Executive, Delegates and Observers at the commencement of WFOT's 26th Council Meeting. The meeting was attended by 70 Delegates and Alternates from 41 member countries.



During a very active week, the council members reviewed the activity of the organisation over the past 2 years and made major decisions concerning the ongoing programmes and future development of the Federation.

The Council Meeting in progress



Our OTASA hosts also showed us true “Cape” hospitality.



A dinner hosted by the Western Cape OTASA Branch allowed us to enjoy traditional Cape food and hospitality



Marimba Band entertained us on instruments they had made by hand. All the members of the band have visual impairments.



An official welcome to Cape Town was given at the University of Cape Town in the world famous Smuts Hall

The Council elected two new members to the Executive Management Team and the team for 2004 – 2006 will be:

- ❑ **Kit Sinclair, President (Hong Kong)**
- ❑ **Enrique Henny, 1st Vice President (Chile)**
- ❑ **Christiane Mentrup, 2nd Vice President (Germany) – replacing Louisa Shing-Ru Shih**
- ❑ **Marilyn Pattison, Honorary Secretary (Australia)**
- ❑ **Sharon Brintnell, Honorary Treasurer (Canada)**
- ❑ **Julie Piergrossi, PCo Standards & Quality (Italy)**
- ❑ **Samantha Shann, PCo International Cooperation (UK) – replacing Christiane Mentrup**
- ❑ **Anne Carswell, PCo Education & Research (Canada)**
- ❑ **Lena Haglund, PCo Promotion and Development (Sweden)**

Christiane Mentrup (2nd Vice President) and Samantha Shan were welcomed to the Management Team and the contribution of Louisa Shing-Ru Shih was greatly acknowledged.

An overview of the last 2 years work of the Federation will be presented in the Annual Report which will be on the website and in the November issue of the Bulletin. The work of the next 2 years is outlined in the Operational Plan which can be found in the Document Centre.

The Executive Management team extends warm congratulations and thanks to all Delegates, Alternate Delegates, Observers, Member Associations, occupational therapists and non occupational therapist who have contributed to making the period 2002 – 2004 such a success for the World Federation. We urge you all to continue with your support of the organisation.

Executive Management Team 2002 - 2004

(from left to right) Julie Piergrossi (PCo Standards & Quality), Christiane Mentrup (PCo International Cooperation), Anne Carswell (PCo Education & Research), Enrique Henry (1st Vice President), Kit Sinclair (President), Marilyn Pattison (Honorary Secretary), Sharon Brintnell (Honorary Treasurer), Lena Haglund (PCo Promotion and Development)
(Please note - Louisa Shing-Ru Shih, outgoing 2nd Vice President was unable to attend)



**Marilyn Pattison, Honorary Secretary, WFOT
June 2004**