



Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Regional Group

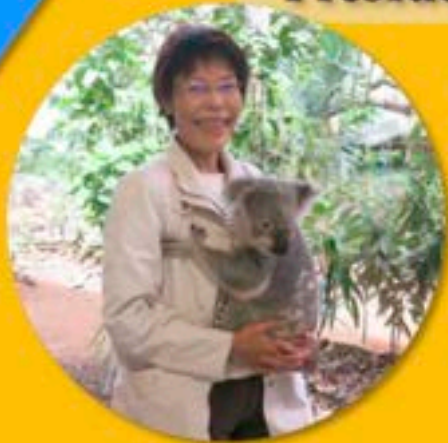
APOTRG NEWSLETTER #1



Ling-Hui Chang
President



Lynette Mackenzie
Vice President



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Treasurer



Adam Lo
Secretary & Co-editor



Amber Chang
Co-editor

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Welcome from the Editors

*'...very keen to ensure
that our members and
colleagues are kept
informed...'*



Welcome to our inaugural newsletter, specifically for our Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Regional Group. Our President, Associate Professor Ling-Hui Chang, together with the newly elected committee, are very keen to ensure that our members and colleagues are kept informed about our activities, achievements and aspirations. This newsletter is for you and it is designed to share your ideas, thoughts, your work and perspectives. Contributions from member nations are always welcomed and it is not just words that we are after, we also love to see any accompanying photographs, pictures and the likes.

Please email your contributions to apotrgnews@gmail.com. Articles of interests include occupational therapy related initiatives, individual/team/organisational success stories, lessons learnt, opinion piece about specific topics of interest, training and education opportunities, achievements and awards, stories of collaboration and partnership, research ideas and more.

For this inaugural edition of the Newsletter, we want to introduce the APOTRG's executive committee to you, as well as offering an opportunity to connect with others at the upcoming World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Congress in Paris.

Adam Lo & Amber Chang

Newsletter Co-editors

Introducing the President of APOTRG – Associate Professor Ling-Hui Chang (Taiwan)

Welcome to the first issue of the 2022 Asia-Pacific Newsletter! We as the APOTRG Executive Team would like to use this as a platform to facilitate the exchange of information and further solidify a sense of community in our organization. Please help us to make this newsletter sustainable by contributing interesting news, policies, and research regarding the occupational therapy field in your country, as well as past and future conference announcements, etc. Also, a big shout-out to Adam Lo, our APOTRG secretary, and Amber Chang, an occupational therapist from Taiwan, for taking on this endeavour.

Ling works at the Occupational Therapy Department of the Medical College at National Cheng-Kung University in Taiwan

Who is Ling-Hui Chang, APOTRG President?

- Associate Professor at the National Cheng-Kung University, Taiwan.
- I have been an occupational therapist for over 30 years!
- I have attended every APOTRG General Assembly and WFOT CM since 2014.
- A career highlight: while I was the President of the Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association, we successfully hosted the 2017 Asia-Pacific Occupational Therapy Symposium (with over 800 attendees), and I shook hands with Taiwan's Vice President!
- I live in Tainan, the oldest city in Taiwan, which has the highest number of temples (over 1600 registered ones) in Taiwan.
- Recent adventure: I climbed the Yushan main peak (height 3952m, the highest mountain in Taiwan) in 2020.

*Climbing the highest
peak (3952 Metres) in
Taiwan, Mt. Jade*

- A Purple Star Astrologist (紫微斗數, ZI WEI DOU SHU) once told me that I was born during the Travel Palace cycle, and thus moving would be a huge part of my life. Was he right! Before I settled down in Tainan, I moved about 18 times after graduating from university. The most intensive period was the year after I finished my doctoral courses at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California, USA. I packed everything up in LA, flew back to Taiwan to complete another round of packing, and relocated to St. Paul, Minnesota. After staying in an apartment for 4 months, I packed up again to move into an university housing. This was all done in 8 months and with two children under 4-years-old!



The Vice President – Professor Lynette MacKenzie (Australia)

I'm Lynette, the vice President, and I am based at the University of Sydney where I work as a professor in Occupational Therapy doing both teaching and research. I am very committed to advancing occupational therapy throughout the Asia Pacific Region and hope to see an approved program in Vietnam soon, and perhaps in Nepal as well. I'm also involved in the Research Program of work with WFOT.

*Lynette in Vietnam,
blending in with
the locals*



The Treasurer – Fusae Ishibashi (Japan)

I am Fusae, the treasurer. I am teaching occupational therapy at Fukuoka campus, the International University of Health and Welfare, Japan. I enjoy teaching, as the students always amaze and fascinate me with their passion and enthusiasm! However, after my classes, I sometimes do feel very exhausted, which I never did feel when I was younger.

I am also a member of the executive committee of the 2024 Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Congress in Sapporo, Japan. I am definitely looking forward to meeting you all in Sapporo!

*Fusae, up close
and personal with
a Koala in
Australia*



The Secretary – Adam Lo OAM (Australia)

G'day colleagues and friends. I am Adam, the secretary and newsletter co-editor, from Queensland, Australia. I am a mental health occupational therapist of twenty years, most of which is working with children, adolescents and their families in clinical settings. I am also the current WFOT Delegate for Australia, and a board director of Occupational Therapy Australia. I am passionate about the use of creative arts in promoting health and wellbeing. I also volunteer across a number of organisations, ranging from youth development to working with multicultural communities and the arts sector. It is certainly a pleasure to work with occupational therapy colleagues from across the Asia Pacific region and beyond!

Adam painting in his home studio. This particular artwork raised AUD\$800 at a charity auction in July 2022



The Newsletter Co-editor – Amber Chang (Taiwan)

Hello to friends from around the world!

I'm Amber Chang and I'm honoured to take on this mission as the APOTRG Newsletter co-editor. Looking forward to get to know more about the latest news and findings in research from different countries! It's not easy to meet up in person under the pandemic, but we hope to gather members from the Asia Pacific area, here on this platform. Here's a bit about myself:

- An Occupational therapist at the Rehabilitation Center of Taichung Tzu Chi Hospital, Taiwan.

*Unique
architecture of the
Taichung Tzu Chi
Hospital*



- Specializes in working with patients with stroke, spinal cord injury, dementia, etc.

- A passionate language learner: I speak Mandarin, Taiwanese, English and Japanese. Being able to communicate through different

languages is truly a lot of fun! I'll definitely try to learn more languages from other countries in the future.

- I enjoy creating art in acrylic and oil paint. I'm not a professional artist, but art is a way for me to tell stories and capture emotions.

Cheers,

Amber



*Amber speaks
Mandarin,
Taiwanese, English
and Japanese*



WFOT Congress – APOTRG Stall

At the upcoming WFOT Congress in Paris, there will be a stall space for the various WFOT Regional Groups. It is a fantastic opportunity to promote the work and achievements of our APOTRG members, as well as to network with one another across the global WFOT family. There will be a focus on promoting our 2024 APOTRG conference in Japan as well.

We are developing a roster/timetable throughout the Congress, where representatives from each of our APOTRG countries take turn to be ‘stationed’ at the stall to network and chat with other attendees. It will probably be about an hour for each shift. Promotional materials can also be disseminated at the stall.

If your country/association would like to be rostered on for the APOTRG stall, please provide the following details to APOTRG@gmail.com, with “WFOT Stall – YOUR COUNTRY” in the subject line. For example, “WFOT Stall – Malaysia” or “WFOT Stall – India”.

Details to Include:

Name of representative

Proposed day(s)

Proposed time(s)

*Materials that you will be bringing and sharing.
(Please attach an electronic copy if possible)*

Please kindly note that each country/association are able to nominate several timings to host the APOTRG stalls if they wish. We will endeavour to maximise having a representative at the stall as much as possible for face-to-face networking and also the diversity of countries to be represented.

Invitation is open to APOTRG members to briefly host our stall at the WFOT Congress.

*He (She) who
doesn't advance,
goes in reverse.*

Qui n'avance pas,
Reculé.



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Co-editors

Adam Lo

Amber Chang

Please submit your contributions to apotrgnews@gmail.com.

We would also love to hear about your feedback. Please use the same email above.

For our next newsletter, we are keen to report back about the WFOT Congress and hear about the experiences of our members.

Anticipated publication date for the next newsletter will be in September 2022.
